

Subject: My Submission

Firstly I am very disappointed but not surprised, as you are after all another Government agency, to find your submission process extremely difficult to navigate in order to provide an actual submission into your current Childcare Enquiry.

However here are my observations, thoughts and questions for you to include in the Enquiry:

1. Every single time the Government announces another subsidy or rebate, eg: Childcare, the associated industry instantly raises their prices to take that subsidy/rebate, and more. It is as predictable as day follows night. Don't do it.
2. You will not get more Childcare staff by increasing their minimum wage, which by the way will also be instantly added to the cost of Childcare by the associated businesses, because the main reason people will not apply for such jobs is the continuing complete distrust of Governments and industries due entirely to the imposed COVID vaccination mandates.

The same applies and can be verified for the Health, Education and Volunteer Emergency Services sectors. 99% of current Government-advertised jobs are in the Health and Education sectors because no-one will take them up for fear of future vaccine mandates. And no-one will volunteer for Fire or SES for the same reason after they left in droves as a result of the COVID mandates. Trust has been completely lost because the public was betrayed by all levels of Government and their associated services.

3. Why is the cost of Childcare equivalent to around half of one parent's weekly wage? I am 65 years of age and when I was a child almost no-one went to a Childcare Centre because one parent's wage was enough to pay all the bills, including a home loan. Mothers stayed at home to raise their children properly because they could afford to, AND it was the best thing to do for the children and society in general. In fact the only Childcare Centre in the whole of Clayton (Victoria) where I lived was run by the local Council, and I believe it was free because the only people who used it were accidental single parents who had to work in order to pay the bills, so there weren't many of those unfortunate people.
4. The whole system of Government is broken because it is no longer focused on better community outcomes where family and neighbours were encouraged and assisted to help each other, but is now completely aimed toward economic ones and helping corporations get bigger and more profitable at any cost, which you can see is entirely unsustainable socially, economically and environmentally.

5. Gone are the days of owning your own home without being in debt for the rest of your life. There used to be a Prices and Wages Justification Tribunal which all Unions and businesses would need to involve and provide the justification in seeking permission to increase wages and prices of goods. Prices and wages remained stable as a result, and everyone could afford to live a reasonable life into the foreseeable future. Now we're at the whim of corporations and the Government remains silent while everyone is being unjustly ripped off. The ridiculous fuel prices, military acquisitions and the blatant lies about supplies of just about everything being related to Ukraine, Russia and China are more examples of this Government-sponsored economic ripoff system.

6. Government services (Health, Education, etc.) and utilities (Power, Water, Telephone, Postal, etc.) must never be privatised and should be returned into the public's hands.

Focus on the whole social community and environmental picture, and not the economic one