



Shepparton Retirement Villages Submission to the Productivity Commission.

We address the Productivity Commission to request they respond positively and swiftly with reform to the current Aged Care Industry.

Shepparton Villages, as with many Residential Aged Care Organisations Australia wide, despite its huge financial and regulatory burden has managed to sustain their business providing Quality Care to our Aged Community.

This effort cannot continue unless the Australian Government accepts that this industry while incredibly stressed has still managed to maintain and excel in the care and support of our elderly and deserves the respect and acknowledgement of viable funding

Accept that we are a professional, multifaceted Industry, no less so than any other part of the Health System and dare I say greater than some, and allow us to grow and embrace the weight of the future challenges of Aged Care in Australia

You may ask where is the evidence of this great work ? We would have to say that at this time the proof is only in what we achieve day to day. As much as we wish to pursue research and publication of evidence based practice, already managing the workloads we have makes this impossible.

Sadly the evidence of the devaluation our service is all too obvious. Over the last three years we have had revenue increases of 9.8% and cost increases at 15%, this situation is simply not tenable. Within the current wage system, Aged Care remuneration sits at approximately 20% less than Acute Care.

We urge the Commission address these issues. Invest in our industry and our organisations, providing financial and pay equity to our business.

With the strength of our Governments recognition of our significant and brilliant service to our Aging community, imbued with greater freedom to pursue our goals, we will then be able to meet the needs of an older and diverse population