

Here is a brief, overdue submission in response to your ‘Migrant Intake into Australia’ Issues Paper.

It addresses only one point in the terms of reference, namely:

“2. An examination of the scope to use alternative methods for determining intakes – ... – and the effects these would have.”

It also responds to the section ‘Other Alternatives’ at pp.35-36 of your issues paper.

On page 36 you refer to intake methods adopted in other countries and ask how would those mechanisms improve outcomes. I want to suggest a method which has not yet been adopted anywhere, but would significantly improve outcomes.

At present, all over Australia, there are significant conflicts arising from development proposals triggered by population growth. All such conflicts cost time and money. The source of the problem is the absence of any link between overall population numbers and local development caused by the higher population densities, which result from immigration.

At www.wewilldecide.info you will find my proposal to fix this problem. Just reading the home page will give you the idea. Other sections of the site set out how the idea can easily be developed into a workable policy. The site was published in mid 2013, which means that it does not incorporate the ABS statistics issued later in that year, but this does not detract from the argument which is made.

I am well aware that the Government is only interested in whether it can make money from migrants; subjecting yet another area of policy to market forces, no matter how inappropriate that may be. Readers who share the Government’s approach will not be interested in my proposal. Readers with an intellect and an open mind will find the proposal interesting and useful.

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