

Supplementary submission from John K. Fox

- Financial matters are not the subject of this submission
- See attached report in the Brisbane Sunday mail dated 6 March 2011 showing anticipated revenue from mining royalties
- Also see enclosed editorial comment from “The Senior” newspaper Feb 2011
- Enclosed also find “20 Reasons” looking for the best aged care option in Australia from the South West/Springfield News dated 16/3/2011
- Some of the weaknesses and challenges that should be addressed include
 1. Better communication by way of a review of the accreditation system and rectification of defects of aged care premises within an acceptable time frame
 - Also suggested that they be given a star rating system which could be subject of appeal or amendment
 - Information could be made available Australia wide on the internet after the appeal process
 2. Suggest Bowel cancer screening for all Australians citizens over 50 years of age be free of charge, once per year.
 - Early diagnoses and treatment would be cost effective.
 3. Suggest that recommendation of the previous dental inquiry be adopted on a means tested basis for persons over 50 years of age as a priority. Funding to be determined.
 4. Suggest nurse practitioners carry out home visits or other arrangements to treat medical procedures such as mental health or minor wound dressing and for them to determine if a medical practitioner or other suitably qualified person was necessary.
 - Also, there is a necessity for an exercise programme for persons in residential type accommodation

Summary

To address these and other weaknesses and challenges it is suggested that the Federal Government be responsible for all health matters. This would result in better efficiency and be cost effective.

Addendum to Supplementary Submission

Screening for bowel cancer

- Under current government guidelines it is available free of charge only to persons in their 50th year
- This is a simple test done by oneself at home
- I choose to do it each year privately at a cost of approx. \$30
 - On my test results it states “The Gastroenterological Society of Australia recommend an annual Faecal Occult Blood Test for people over 50 years of age.
- This disease is a slow and painful death which no doubt is also costly to the government. Early diagnosis and treatment is the key.
- It also has an effect on adult people of all ages.
- It seems an anomaly that annual eye testing and eye wear together with hearing testing and aids, are available free of charge to all pensioners.

Yours Sincerely

John K. Fox