

15th July

The Secretary
Senate Community Affairs Committee

Dear Sir or Madam

I was requested by Mr Kim Wilkie MP to forward the enclosed letter which I sent to him after his visit to the Retirement village where I am an inmate .

Yours sincerely

(Mrs) Audrey Kershaw

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "A Kershaw".

2-7-2007

Mr Kim Wilkie
Federal Member For Swan

Dear Mr Wilkie

In reply to your query regarding problems faced by Senior Citizens ,as a long term resident of the above address I herewith point out a number of issues .

Regarding the Senate inquiry into the cost of living ,I consider the GST tax one of the greatest impositions ,over a period of twelve months hundreds of dollars are added to items purchased .For example three electrical items which I purchased attracted a total of \$23-50 .

Regarding health issues ,we residents of the above address have very little support ,there are hundreds of people many whom have no family to offer assistance .There is some services during the week until about four PM ,then only the Security person to call upon ,he wears Three!hats ,namely to protect the residents from intruders ,also to do small emergency maintence jobs , finally to attend to Welfare problems ,to call for an ambulance ,or a Silver chain Nurse (who may take hours to come).And then only for certain medical problems ,such as bleeding or burns .

We residents living independantly are forced sign a contract stating we are not entitled to Welfare assistance .This situation is very dangerous as many people do not have a family to call upon ,also the during holiday periods ,for example Easter ,from four PM Thursday, until Tuesday 8-30 Am we are alone ,as many of us are over ninety years of age and afflicted by permanent health problems its a very frightening situation .I wear Silver Chain Carelink pendant which enables me to call for help instantly ,however as one has to pay a considerable amount of money for this service many residents cannot afford it .

Thank you for your interest.

Yours sincerely

(Mrs) Audrey Kershaw

