The Secretary Senate Community Affairs Committee

Parliament House

Canberra.

Dear Secretary,

My response to the cost of living pressures on my husband and I - both self-funded retirees - is to say that it is a very real concern.

There is an impact from the increase in petrol prices. We walk much more and use public transport when we can. How it is possible to say that inflation is low when food seems to increase in price almost weekly?

And dental care is so expensive, especially for anything other than a clean and check up.

We are in the fortunate position of having private Health Insurance and help with our Rates, Phone bill and Energy costs. Never the less, we worry about less fortunate elderly folk and the impact of rising costs on our self funded pension.

Yours sincerely,

Esme Annette White.