

From: contact@engage.vic.gov.au
Sent: Tuesday, 26 November 2019 3:33 PM
To: rvreview@justice.vic.gov.au
Subject: New Form submission on Review of the Retirement Villages Act 1986



New Form submission on Review of the Retirement Villages Act 1986

Hi rvreview@justice.vic.gov.au

There has been a submission on [Review of the Retirement Villages Act 1986](#) through Engage Victoria

A copy of the submission is provided as below:

You can also make your submission by adding comments below. This form will not save, so you may like to prepare your comments in a document.

You may fill out as many or as few of the boxes as you like.

The retirement village sector

When commenting on the retirement village sector you could cover:

- the impact of social and economic trends
- your thoughts and experience of Victoria's retirement village industry as a whole.

For more information and specific questions, see Part 1 of the issues paper or the summary [Retirement village sector and regulatory and policy framework](#).

Your comments about the retirement village sector

As residents of a retirement village we believe that there should be a clear agreement on entry to the village, to be more transparent and understandable.

The regulatory and policy framework for retirement villages

You could cover:

- the effectiveness of the Act
- how retirement villages are defined
- how the retirement village industry is regulated.

For more information and specific questions, see Part 2 of the issues paper or the summary [Retirement village sector and regulatory and policy framework](#).

Your comments about the regulatory and policy framework for retirement villages

We believe the Act is not effective as there are many different types of villages.

Entering a retirement village

You could cover:

- the process of entering a contract
- cooling-off periods
- the disclosures that operators are required to make
- the complexity of the contract
- financial models for living in a retirement village
- deferred management fees.

For more information and specific questions, see Part 3 of the issues paper or or the summary [Entering a retirement village](#).

Your comments about entering a retirement village

The contract should be clear, with all disclosures of maintenance and running costs.

Living in a retirement village

You could cover:

- the obligations of village operators
- how villages are governed and managed.

For more information and specific questions, see Part 4 of the issues paper or the summary [Living in a retirement village](#).

Your comments about living in a retirement village

The operator should be obliged to reveal the costs that are incurred within the rent, eg maintenance, rates etc. We would like staff to be fully trained in how to treat elderly people and to have first aid training.

Leaving a retirement village

You could cover:

- the process of selling or re-leasing a unit
- obligations to reinstate or refurbish units
- ongoing charges after the resident leaves
- how capital gains are handled.

For more information and specific questions, see Part 5 of the issues paper or the summary [Leaving a retirement village](#).

Your comments about leaving a retirement village

We believe the full rent should not be charged if the owner is deceased or in a nursing home.

The electricity supply charge should not be applied if the unit is empty.

Dispute resolution

You could cover internal and external dispute resolution processes.

For more information and specific questions, see Part 6 of the issues paper or the summary [Dispute resolution](#).

Your comments about dispute resolution

We feel that an ombudsman is required for a fairer outcome when disputes can't be resolved. It is stressful, intimidating and time consuming for elderly people to go to CAV and VCAT.

The enforcement of rights and responsibilities

You could cover:

- how offences are enforced
- civil rights and remedies that residents may have access to.

For more information and specific questions, see Part 7 of the issues paper or the summary [Enforcement of the Act](#).

Your comments about the enforcement of rights and responsibilities

Any other comments

If you have any other comments, including about issues that have not been discussed in the issues paper, you can enter them into the box below.

Your comments

Residents feel that living in a hybrid village can be extremely stressful when holiday makers are allowed access to the retirement section of the village, with owners having no responsibility for the peace and privacy of our homes. There is also a lack of security.

I have read and agree to the privacy statement

Yes

Provide your name or email address to help us identify your comments if you wish to access them, make a correction, or require technical support.

First Name

██████

Last Name

██████

Email address

████████████████████

How would you like us to handle your comments?

You may publish my comments anonymously (your name will be omitted)

What best describes your interest and involvement in retirement villages?

Current or former resident

Location of retirement village (if relevant)

Rural Victoria

Year of entry into retirement village (if relevant)

Before 2014

To view all of the form's submissions, visit:

<https://engage.vic.gov.au/index.php/dashboard/reports/forms/viewDetail/2315>

Regards,

The Engage Victoria Team

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