Crowdfunding for Research

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Presentation to AAG Webinar, 31 August 2017
About the organisation

Per Capita shifts the debate on ageing and longevity in Australia

Per Capita’s work in the area of ageing and longevity has shifted the debate in Australia so that this demographic change is being recognised for the opportunity it is.

This week the Assistant Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia, Christopher Kent, has argued for a recognition of the opportunities inherent in ageing and longer-living society. At the highest levels of Australian public policy, there is a growing recognition that ageing does not have to be the challenge, the burden, or the disaster which it has been understood as.
The project

The Advisory Panel

The Panel consists of three members, each working in a part-time capacity:

- Mr Erwood Compton AM (chairperson), recently retired Chair of National Seniors Australia, and Chair of the Consultative Forum on Mature Age Participation
- Professor Gill Lewin, President of the Australian Association of Gerontology; Professor at the Centre for Research on Ageing at Curtin University of Technology; and Research Director at Silver Chain, a provider of community and health services in WA
- Professor Brian Howe AO, former Deputy Prime Minister with Ministerial experience in the fields of Social Security, Health, Housing and Community Services; and Professorial Fellow at the Centre for Public Policy, University of Melbourne

The Panel will meet each month, rotating between the state capital cities, as well as holding regional meetings in Alice Springs and Armidale. The Panel’s monthly meetings will involve targeted consultations with peak representative bodies, relevant experts and members of the public.

A secretariat has been established to support the Panel’s work, with staff from the Treasury, the Department of Health and Ageing and the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs.

Advisory Panel on Positive Ageing scrapped

By Australian Ageing Agenda on November 3, 2014 in Government, Industry

By Darragh O’Keefe and Natasha Egan

The Federal Government has announced that the Advisory Panel on Positive Ageing is to be scrapped – at a saving of just over $1 million a year.

Prime Minister Tony Abbott said that to further streamline government and reduce duplication, the government will abolish or rationalise 21 non-statutory bodies “where activities are no longer needed or can be managed within existing departmental resources.”

“Many of these non-statutory bodies have outlived their original purpose or are not focused on the government’s policy priorities. As a result, their work is best carried out by the relevant government departments or agencies. Ministers will continue to receive advice from a broad range of sources, including industry, and community, public sector, sector peak and advisory bodies.”
Sources of crowdfunding
Other sources of funding
Paul Keating tells think tank government must act as insurer for Australia's aging with increased super contributions

By the National Reporting Team's Alison Stanley
Updated 21 May 2015, 7:17pm

Former prime minister Paul Keating has renewed calls for what he says should be "superannuation phase two", where the Government acts as an insurer for the nation's ageing.

Speaking at the launch of a new think tank in Sydney, the architect of Australia's superannuation scheme also said super contributions needed to be lifted to 12 per cent if Australians were to live comfortably in old age.

Mr Keating said he had abandoned his belief the rate should get up to 15 per cent of wages but said...
Take-home points

■ Crowdfunding was a difficult exercise for our policy research.

■ Crowdfunding projects with readily identifiable benefits work best. Benefits that attach to a specific individual, organisation or outcome do well. E.g. Helping an individual receive medical treatment they otherwise could not afford.

■ It’s more difficult to crowdfund policy research, where the benefits are often intangible and spread across the community.