

Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper – Submission IP156
Les Scarborough
Submitted 21 March 2014 via email

Taskforce Chairperson

I have submitted my details on the website. I am now retired but was formally involved nationally as a mentor..trainer of trainers in selfcare and support of people in different organisations and denominations Australia wide. This included many hundreds on farming and outback property's.

Also I have friendships with those involved in rural financial counselling..

I phoned the contact number and was advised to place my submisin and contents under the heading of dot point regional communities.

SUBMISSION My basic concern is that unless we address the person..their well being in selfcare both mentally and emotionally then the potential for prosperity will be greatly diminished in the short term and long term.This specific concern is not noted as a key issue in the initial white paper.

Thus my concerns relate to the following

a.....support networks for those living in isolated properties.

b.....preventative marriage and partner resources for couples

c....inservice seminars that explain the stressors of being involved in farming during droughts and floods

d..available mentoring for financial difficulties before reaching the rural financial services list

e.....succession planning for the future...I have heard so many stories over many years of the disputes among families because of this not being implemented by the original owners.

f.....the willingness of government officlals based away from the immediate area to address these personal issues as a priority.

g.....the time it takes to gain the long term trust of country folk..for me this was usually a three year commitment in mentoring and training.

I am available to expnad this in a face to face interview if the task force deems this appropriate.

Thankyou

Les Scarborough

