

**From:** webmaster@parliament.qld.gov.au  
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**To:** Economic Development Committee  
**Subject:** ONLINE SUBMISSION - 'Grey nomad tourism'  
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**Importance of grey nomads to the Queensland economy:**

1. What economic contribution do grey nomads make to rural and regional areas of Queensland?
2. Are the available statistics on grey nomads in Queensland useful, current and accessible?

Although we have only anecdotal evidence, we believe that grey nomads make a significant contribution to rural and regional areas of Queensland. Often caravans can be seen parked at various locations throughout Cooroy and these visitors make economic contribution to our town by spending at our retail shops (from small purchases such as coffee to larger purchases such as mechanical services). Grey nomads offer a contribution to diversifying the local economy. We are not aware of the available statistics on grey nomads so cannot comment on whether they are useful, current or accessible but we would be interested in receiving them so they could be perhaps more widely distributed.

**Infrastructure requirements:**

3. What are the public infrastructure requirements of grey nomads including health services, waste disposal sites and signage?
4. Is the current infrastructure for grey nomads in Queensland adequate? What additional infrastructure is required?

The major public infrastructure requirements are signage, waste disposal sites, overnight stop over sites and parking for caravans. Cooroy lacks all of these basic infrastructure requirements despite being on the Bruce Highway at the northern end of the Sunshine Coast (i.e. the first entry to the Sunshine Coast when travelling from the north and the last major stop before heading north to Gympie). There is an obvious need for parking as evidenced by illegal parking across carparking spots, on the side of the road and at the sporting fields a short walk to town. Similarly, vans are often spotted overnight parked outside the sporting fields or on the side of the road as there is inadequate signage and no designated overnight stopping areas. A waste disposal site would also be most welcome. Cooroy offers significant benefits to grey nomads as it is on the major routes, has all the normal public infrastructure such as health services, postal services, banks, etc. Similarly we welcome grey nomads and have recently opened the Cooroy Lower Mill Site which is a tourism attraction aimed at explaining the timber heritage of Cooroy and this was specifically aimed at the grey nomad market when developed. Cooroy has been campaigning local government for more than 12 months to provide a solution but to date has not seen any results.

**Government coordination:**

5. What are the major issues relating to the regulation of Queensland's camping and caravan parks?

The use of public land for overnight / short stays (either for free or a small fee) and a centralised set of licensing requirements that were simple and non-restrictive would be welcomed.

**Marketing and promotion:**

6. What is the best method of marketing Queensland's rural and regional communities to grey nomad tourists?

A centralised website particularly targeting the grey nomad market and a printed publication produced to promote what is available to grey nomads would be greatly beneficial. This should include the facilities at each location such as camping spots but also include other information such as bushwalks, heritage sites, shopping, etc.

**Utilisation of grey nomad skills in regional and rural Queensland:**

7. How successful have existing programs been in utilising the skills of grey nomads in rural and regional Queensland?  
8. What can the government do to encourage grey nomads to use their skills by undertaking work in rural and regional areas?

We have no comment on this area.

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**Comments:**

We would be extremely interested in any

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