

Inquiry into volunteering in Queensland

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Macleay Island is part of the Southern Moreton Bay Islands off Brisbane. We have an aging population with two thirds of the population over the age of 55 So this island is predominantly populated with seniors, many who still have a Centrelink work requirementthe Volunteers

There are limited private business on the island , who have the usual overheads of rent/staff wages , etcnd there are numerous fully funded government “community facilities” who have no overheads and are staffed with Centrelink volunteers seniorsthe private business can not compete and close , leaving the island without service. Nepotism within the volunteer circle means youth , who have invested thousands in higher education degrees do not get employed in roles they have trained forinstead a government subsidised volunteer gets the position.

Volunteers take paid job roles/positions away from younger employees in private competing businesses, who can not compete with fully funded government subsidised facilitiesand the younger islanders end up leaving because there is no paid work Youth who invest thousands in education and degrees can not get work on the islands because of volunteers And the senior islanders complain there isn't the youthIt's. Vicious circle And the seniors wonder why the youth leavelt's a vicious circle