

## **To the Members of the Independent Panel,**

I am writing this submission to voice concerns over certain aspects of Australia's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. While I recognise the importance of the Inquiry's goal to improve pandemic preparedness, there are critical areas that require thorough scrutiny. Ultimately, I would ask the panel members to ask this simple question throughout the process...To what end? Did what our government(s) implemented result in the betterment of our society? Did what our government(s) implemented stop the virus? Did what our government(s) implemented truly save lives or have we just made things worse?

### **Concerns Over Specific Pandemic Measures**

**Mask and Vaccine Mandates:** The implementation of mask and vaccine mandates had significant impacts on individual freedoms and social dynamics. These measures, often invasive, warrant a detailed review to assess their necessity, effectiveness, and proportionality. As a builder it is worth noting that in order to work remove asbestos which is composed of particles much larger than the particles that the virus occupied, one must use a P3 respirator. One must have a solid contact with the face which must be clean shaven and when one blocks the intake filters no air is able to be drawn in and the mask attaches to the face more securely with the suction created. The masks that we were using under the mandate were useless. They served no purpose. NO ONE would have used these masks to remove asbestos nor use them in any noxious environment. As for vaccine mandates, to demand society to be vaccinated using a technology that is still new and has not been thoroughly vetted or to lose everything is barbaric and obscene. It was neither safe, nor effective.

**Lockdowns and Curfews:** The economic, social, and psychological impacts of lockdowns and curfews have been profound. An evaluation of these measures is essential to understand their long-term effects on Australian society and whether they were the most appropriate response.

**Communication Strategies:** It is quite clear that there was an unwarranted use of fear in public health messaging. It's important to analyse whether such communication strategies were effective or whether they contributed to unnecessary panic and distress among the public.

### **Concerns Over the Composition and Scope of the Inquiry**

**Panel Composition:** The appointment of Inquiry panel members who have previously expressed support for certain pandemic measures raises questions about the objectivity and impartiality of the Inquiry. Panel members who have expressed support for such measures should recuse themselves.

**Exclusion of Unilateral State and Territory Government Decisions:** One of the most significant omissions in the Inquiry's scope is the exclusion of actions taken unilaterally by state and territory governments. These decisions, including state-imposed lockdowns and border controls, were pivotal to the nation's pandemic response and should be included in the Inquiry. It is interesting to me that on my passport

**Concerns of the fact the Federal Government did not act as it should have.**

Ultimately the Federal Government is responsible for issues that affect all Australians. Clearly this affected all Australians and as such the States and Territories should not have had the controls they did

### **The Need for a Comprehensive Review**

While the Terms of Reference for the Inquiry are extensive, it is crucial that the above-mentioned areas are not overlooked. A truly comprehensive review should encompass all aspects of the government's response, including those currently outside the Inquiry's scope.

### **Conclusion**

This submission represents a collective call for a more inclusive and thorough investigation into Australia's COVID-19 response. It also urges for freedom and liberty to not ever be cast aside with fearmongering as it was by Australian governments during the pandemic. We urge the Inquiry to consider these points to ensure transparency, accountability, and the safeguarding of Australian values and liberties.

Regards.  
Greg Scott