

Philanthropy Under Continued Attack

Private philanthropy in Australia has virtually come to a halt, awaiting clear guidelines from Canberra.

The appalling submissions process continues (e.g. request initial submissions over the Christmas period, delay in responding, eventually respond without the key information and then provide 14 days for further submissions!).

Anecdotal evidence suggests that this continued confusion has slowed the rate of formation of these Private Prescribed Funds by 90% on last year's rate.

One of the points of concern was the proposal to report to the ATO instead of the Governor General. Naturally, I was far more comfortable and trusting in reporting to the Governor General rather than the ATO whose arrogant attitude is that the money being donated actually belongs to the ATO.

As in all things, bureaucracies seem to overlook the reality of life in that if they want more philanthropy they should encourage it by simplifying matters, if they want less philanthropy, they should complicate it, as is the general tendency.

There is mounting concern that we live in a society that does not encourage family philanthropy.

For Mannkal's submission click here -

<http://www.mannkal.org/downloads/submissions/sub20090108.pdf>