



# Foodbank

An Australia Without Hunger

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Committee Secretary  
Standing Committee on Infrastructure,  
Transport, Regional Development and Local Government  
PO Box 6021  
House of Representatives  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sir

The **Foodbank** of WA is a Not for Profit Organisation which is Non Denominational, and a bridge of support between the Food Industry and Community Support Agencies tending to those in need in WA.

- ✦ Over 17 million kgs of food has been rescued from what would have been landfill during the period 1994 to 2008.
- ✦ Annual food distributions exceed 1.8 million kgs
- ✦ Well over 200 Breakfast Clubs have been set up State-wide in WA. Dramatic improvements have been registered for attendance, health, well being and academic outcomes etc

We operate four regional branches that outreach to the Communities (including farmers) of Rural and Regional Western Australia, including the Midwest, Peel, South West and the Great Southern.

We are currently paying expensive leases in Regional WA. We need to retire, these leases to help us stay viable. We were in the process of Grant seeking to establish our first purpose built and owned premises in the Great Southern. Our application had been approved at \$100,000 unfortunately the building plans were not available and we had to temporarily postpone the Grant claim.

We understand that an enquiry has commenced into the Regional Partnerships Program.

Our proposal included a teaching kitchen.

- ✦ High School children will be taught to teach Primary School children, base cooking and base nutrition
- ✦ There will be permanent part time work for disabled young people
- ✦ The kitchen would be available for Community Agencies, Growers & Producers to value add to their products

Cont/-

- ✦ There will be work experience opportunity for school children with special needs

We object to the use of the word 'Rort'. **Foodbank** WA applies a whole hearted endeavour to lift the lives of disadvantaged people many of them children. The organisation has been recognised as:

- ✦ Citizen of the year (Community)
- ✦ Premiers Award – Innovation in Industry
- ✦ Bartercard/Chamber of Commerce & Industry Award for Excellence in Business

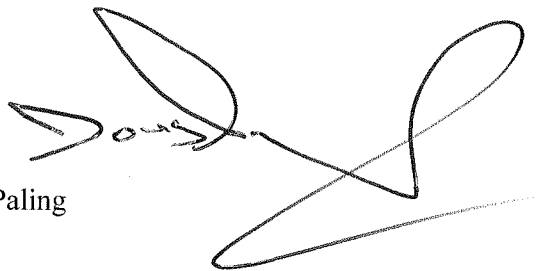
Together with many other Awards

It is our opinion that the Consultative Committees are essential to assess and marry the needs of the Community to funding, which will make a significant and sustained improved difference in the Community in which they live.

We were impressed by the diverse and high quality of people who represented the people of the Great Southern. It would be a great pity if representation bodies such as these do not exist.

Yours faithfully

Doug Paling  
CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Doug Paling', with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.