

Media Release

More confirmation about the high cost of care: but one voice is still out of tune

8 March 2007: The Taskforce on Care Costs welcomes the Final Paper from the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission “It’s about time. Women, men, work and family”, launched in Sydney yesterday.

HREOC found that the cost of care is “problematic” and “childcare is becoming less affordable”. That finding is consistent with the Taskforce on Care Costs’ research, including the Childcare Affordability Index which demonstrates that the cost of childcare has risen by 65% over the last 5 years, whilst disposable income has risen by 17%.

The Index was developed by ANZ Economics and launched by Saul Eslake, Chief Economist on 2 March 2007.

“The high cost of care in Australia is a consistent finding by independent researchers, including the Taskforce on Care Costs. HREOC has now added its voice to that song” says Juliet Bourke, Chair of the Taskforce on Care Costs.

“It’s puzzling why the Government thinks that care is affordable when the volume of the chorus is growing”, says Bourke. .

To enable Australians to set the record straight the Taskforce on Care Costs is currently running the “Who cares?” campaign. By logging onto tocc.org.au Australians can send an e-card to a Government or Shadow Minister about the high cost of care. The campaign will close on 19 March 2007.

- ENDS -

About TOCC

TOCC is supported by over 40 high profile business and non-government organisations. TOCC was established in 2003 to investigate the relationship between work and the cost of care, and propose sustainable and fair solutions to give carers choice. TOCC has concluded that the work/cost of care dynamic is a critical national and strong leadership, and immediate intervention, is required to improve the situation. For more information visit www.tocc.org.au

Media Inquiries: Sean Brogan, Wilkinson Media, Ph: 0407 436 709 or 8001 8820.

Media Release

More confirmation about the high cost of care: but one voice is still out of tune

8 March 2007: The Taskforce on Care Costs welcomes the Final Paper from the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission “It’s about time. Women, men, work and family”, launched in Sydney yesterday.

HREOC found that the cost of care is “problematic” and “childcare is becoming less affordable”. That finding is consistent with the Taskforce on Care Costs’ research, including the Childcare Affordability Index which demonstrates that the cost of childcare has risen by 65% over the last 5 years, whilst disposable income has risen by 17%.

The Index was developed by ANZ Economics and launched by Saul Eslake, Chief Economist on 2 March 2007.

“The high cost of care in Australia is a consistent finding by independent researchers, including the Taskforce on Care Costs. HREOC has now added its voice to that song” says Juliet Bourke, Chair of the Taskforce on Care Costs.

“It’s puzzling why the Government thinks that care is affordable when the volume of the chorus is growing”, says Bourke.

To enable Australians to set the record straight the Taskforce on Care Costs is currently running the “Who cares?” campaign. By logging onto tocc.org.au Australians can send an e-card to a Government or Shadow Minister about the high cost of care. The campaign will close on 19 March 2007.

- ENDS -

About TOCC

TOCC is supported by over 40 high profile business and non-government organisations. TOCC was established in 2003 to investigate the relationship between work and the cost of care, and propose sustainable and fair solutions to give carers choice. TOCC has concluded that the work/cost of care dynamic is a critical national and strong leadership, and immediate intervention, is required to improve the situation. For more information visit www.tocc.org.au

Media Inquiries: Sean Brogan, Wilkinson Media, Ph: 0407 436 709 or 8001 8820.