



Victoria

Suicide Prevention Task Force

The Hon. Jeff Kennett MP
Premier
1 Treasury Place
MELBOURNE 3002

Dear Premier

On 29 January 1997, you announced the appointment of the Suicide Prevention Task Force and its terms of reference. We have now completed our work and I am pleased to submit to you and the Minister for Health, the Hon. Rob Knowles, our report for your consideration.

I wish to record my thanks to my fellow members of the Task Force for the work they have undertaken and the way in which they have collaborated to produce this report.

We want to express our gratitude to the seven hundred and fifty people who attended the fifteen community consultations and to those five hundred and twenty people and organisations who provided written submissions. Their advice has been invaluable to our work. We owe a profound debt to those Victorians who so willingly shared their own painful experiences of the death of a loved one by suicide in the hope that this knowledge would contribute to assisting others in the future.

Task Force members want particularly to acknowledge the excellent work of the Hansard staff who provided verbatim transcripts of the public consultations.

We also want to record our gratitude to the Director and the Secretariat staff who assisted us with our work. Their names are listed in appendix 2. Without their most professional support our task would not have been completed. Their work was of the highest quality and was always completed against extraordinarily demanding timelines.

Yours sincerely

Peter Kirby
Chair
Suicide Prevention Task Force