

Observation indicates substance related problems are taking the food off the table and hurting families. Instead of telling people what they're going to have our Governments must engage with communities to find suitable, community driven initiatives which aim for positive outcomes through appropriate engagement. Examples include simple concepts like community fruit and veg gardens and similar ideas to bring people together, guided by locally trained professionals to impart appropriate knowledge, provide a sense of purpose and creativity for those who may otherwise feel a bit lost, produce quality, local fruit and veg much cheaper than the price of easily available junk food, and allow communities to develop self-sufficiency and pride in themselves, their achievements and their their communities.

A means related cashless welfare card controls income but does not provide any ability for recipients to get help with factors affecting their circumstances nor does it provide recipients with any sense of self-worth and inspiration to break the cycle. It should only be used in the absence of any reliable, community driven method.

Sincerely

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