

Rebranding a poor response to crisis

Premier Roger Cook's response to Graeme Prior's request for funding for aged care was "great", then he laughed (*News*, 28/8). So the answer is to rearrange the deck chairs on the Titanic to make it look like you are doing something? Introduce "time to think" beds, which is basically care awaiting placement or transitional care renamed.

May I respectfully suggest Mr Cook becomes an undercover boss for the day at Rockingham Hospital, preferably on a Friday about 4pm, presenting to the emergency department, complaining of vague symptoms of pain, bleeding a bit maybe after a pretend fall, bit of a headache maybe? Let's see what he thinks about his health system by Saturday morning when he's still there.

Carolyn Williams, Baldivis

Money for pasta

What an embarrassment seeing the Premier wasting time and



Premier Roger Cook

money going to Canberra with the begging bowl this week (*News*, 26/8).

As he wastes money on non-essential pet projects like the NRL and the Burswood racetrack, look out for the next one — a handout to rich Italian football clubs.

Simon Hogan, Burswood

Built on cheap labour

Like Professor Da Silva Rosa (*Opinion*, 27/8), I am an admirer of the Singaporean

"economic miracle" and I have long thought that if more Australians visited Singapore rather than Bali we may lose some of our complacency.

What became exposed during the pandemic, however, is that much of this "miracle" is underwritten by their labour practices.

About a quarter of the labour force, or just under a million people, consists of "low-wage migrant workers", predominantly from Bangladesh, India and China, and predominantly involved in construction and other dirty and dangerous jobs.

These people pay large amounts to work in Singapore on a temporary basis, where many of them live in crowded dormitories with limited facilities and earn about \$800 a month. They choose to do this, but any comparison of our two countries should take it into account.

Patrick Hanrahan, Floreat