

Track cash would help

Kevin Bennett's letter (27/6) is unfortunately relatively accurate regarding how homeless people are treated.

The implication that because homeless people have no electoral impact as their votes don't matter is rhetoric that we hear too often.

However, homeless people are not necessarily unfortunate tatterdemalions wandering round pushing a shopping trolley containing their sole possessions and sleeping under bridges.

While this is true for some, many are ordinary people with their families sleeping in cars and shelters where they are available. Many are older and younger women who are homeless through no fault of their own.

Mr Bennett's proposition that money spent on a racetrack and rugby team might gain more votes is, however, a sad indictment on how this vulnerable group in our society are treated.

Yes, Mr Bennett, 50,000 people may well go to the first car racing event and 18,000 members may enjoy seeing their rugby team getting flogged every week, but this is no reason for us to roll over to Roger Cook's misguided priorities.

There is a saying that a society is only as strong as how it fixes broken places.

The \$400 million that will be spent on the racing track and rugby team would go a long way in restoring the dignity of many of these people — just ask the countless organisations and volunteers who reach out with very limited resources.

Or maybe we just fob them off by giving them a pie, beer, pat on the head and free ticket to the first car race and rugby game?

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