

Biotech Daily

Tuesday July 18, 2023

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

Osteopore Appoints Robodebt Minister Michael Keenan Director

OSTEOPORE

Osteopore says it has appointed the former Minister for Human Services, responsible for the illegal Robodebt program, Michael Keenan as a non-executive director.

Osteopore said that Mr Keenan's appointment was effective from today, July 18, 2023 and he brought "a wealth of experience and knowledge in public policy and corporate governance" to the company.

According to the Robodebt Royal Commission, Mr Keenan "was appointed on December 21, 2017 [and] as minister, Mr Keenan was responsible for all aspects of the implementation of the Robodebt scheme during his tenure, including the lawfulness of the actions taken by his Department under the scheme".

The Royal Commission said that Mr Keenan was responsible for interest charges being levied against people caught up in the illegal scheme, along with the introduction of orders prohibiting those with debts raised against them leaving the country.

"Given that there was reason to question the scheme's legality, the implications of illegality were dire, and further hardship was being inflicted by his department on those affected, Mr Keenan failed in his responsibility as minister to satisfy himself that his department was acting lawfully," the Royal Commission reported.

The Royal Commission report is available at: www.bit.ly/46Up2Ht.

A number of referrals have been made but those people referred are unknown at this stage.

According to his Federal Parliament biography, Mr Keenan holds a Bachelor of Arts from Perth's Murdoch University and Prague's Charles University, as well as a Bachelor of Arts from Canberra's Australian National University and a Master of Philosophy from England's University of Cambridge.

Osteopore was up 0.3 cents or 3.8 percent to 8.2 cents.