



Housing First Homelessness Advisory Group

Communique No. 7

23 April 2024 Meeting

The Housing First Homelessness Advisory Group met on 23 April 2024 and was attended by the Minister for Homelessness, Hon John Carey MLA as well as Deputy Director General, Leon McIvor. The Advisory Group is chaired by Mike Rowe, Director General, Department of Communities.

The Advisory Group noted the recent budget announcement of an additional \$92.2 million in funding for homelessness initiatives across Western Australia. The Group expressed appreciation for the significant efforts of the Minister and the WA Government in securing this funding.

The Advisory Group discussed further strengthening the By-Name List and explored ways to enhance collaboration and participation in supporting this important initiative as part of the State's commitment to addressing homelessness.

The Advisory Group welcomed representatives from the Office of Homelessness and Infoxchange who provided a presentation on the Online Homelessness Services Portal (the Portal) called 'Find My Way' and its progress to date. The Portal, an app for use by individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness will empower users to connect to supports by allowing them to create a profile, browse a wide range of support services and accommodation options based on their needs, and connect directly with existing services. The Portal is expected to go live towards to end of 2024, start of 2025.

The Advisory Group welcomed representatives from the Department of Justice (Justice) to discuss their ongoing commitment to action items led by Justice in the Action Plan 2020-2025 and their continued interest in exploring opportunities to successfully implement all relevant action items. The presentation highlighted the importance of establishing positive working relationships and collaboration across the government, not-for-profit sector, and Aboriginal community sector towards improving housing outcomes for those exiting the justice system.

With the ongoing development of the new Action Plan (2025-2030), the Advisory Group endorsed the process recommended by the Office of Homelessness. The new Action Plan will identify actions and activities aligned to the [All Paths Lead to a Home: Western Australia's 10-Year Strategy on Homelessness 2020-2030](#) to be undertaken over the final five years of the Strategy. The new Action Plan (2025-2030) is expected to be finalised by the end of 2024.

Further information about the Advisory Group can be found at <https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/department-of-communities/housing-first-homelessness-advisory-group> or by emailing the Secretariat at hfhag@communities.wa.gov.au.