



Community Partnerships Roundtable Communiqué

August | 2024

The Community Partnerships Roundtable (the Roundtable) met on 27 August 2024. The Roundtable is co-chaired by Mike Rowe, Director General of the Department of Communities (Communities) and Louise Giolitto, Chief Executive Officer of the Western Australian Council of Social Service. Members bring a diverse range of experience and expertise to address system-wide issues and plan on matters of strategic importance relevant to the delivery of human services.

The Hon. Sabine Winton MLA, Minister for Early Childhood Education; Child Protection; Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence; Community Services, provided an update to the Roundtable, including:

- Foster and Family Carers week, held 29 July to 5 August 2024;
- The Cook Government's \$17 million investment in the continuation and expansion of support services for foster and family carers;
- The recruitment campaign to boost public awareness and understanding of foster caring and promoting all foster care providers, in particular Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations;
- The Government's increase in funding to KidSport and extension of financial assistance to the biological children of foster and family carers; and
- The ongoing work of the Supporting Communities Forum, including the 2025 focus areas of the Implementation of the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations; Application of the Carers Recognition Act 2004; and the State Commissioning Strategy for Community Services.

The Roundtable received a presentation from Lisa Bednarczyk, Acting Assistant Under Treasurer, Department of Treasury, on the Financial Guidelines and Assurance for Government Agencies in the context of Commissioning Community Services.

Other key discussion items from the meeting included updates from:

- Communities' Emergency Relief and Support team on emergency activations;
- Commissioning and Data Sharing Working Group reporting on their recent meetings;
- The Implementation Oversight Group of the Strengthening Responses to Family and Domestic Violence System Reform Plan 2024 - 2029; and
- Shelter WA on the activities and outcomes of Homelessness Week, held 5 – 11 August 2024, themed "Homelessness Action Now"

The next meeting will be held on 19 November 2024.

Further information

The Secretariat can be contacted by email: SectorPartnerships@communities.wa.gov.au