



Housing First Homelessness Advisory Group

Communique No.14

27 June 2025 Meeting

The Housing First Homelessness Advisory Group (HFHAG) met on 27 June 2025, with the meeting chaired by Ms Gayle Mitchell, A/Executive Director Office of Homelessness, Department of Communities (Communities) as a proxy for Mr Mike Rowe. Ms Mitchell opened the meeting by sharing an overview of the [Action Plan \(2020-2025\)](#), noting that most items are either in progress or complete. She highlighted a significant investment of \$5.8 billion across a range of measures to boost housing supply and support since 2021, including the recent purchase of Fraser Suites in East Perth for social and affordable housing.

Ms Mitchell also provided updates on Common Ground East Perth and Common Ground Mandurah which are on track. She also highlighted the recent launch of the online homelessness services portal Find My Way and the expansion of EntryPoint to better manage demand and reduce wait times for telephone service.

Ms Mitchell also mentioned the recent initiatives for young people including the implementation of the Youth Rough Sleeper Coordination Group, Ruby's youth homelessness support program and the funding provided to Youth Futures to operate DJINDA, a 24/7 youth residential service in the northern suburbs. The Advisory Group believes it's timely to add youth as one of the areas for Advisory Group focus going forward.

The Advisory Group engaged in a discussion regarding the need to enhance support for community services students within the sector. Emphasis was placed on the importance of providing and promoting incentives to encourage individuals to pursue careers in the community services sector alongside creating opportunities for lived experience and peer support networks. The necessity of establishing a clear scope of practice for the homelessness sector, designed to define clear parameters was also identified.

The Advisory Group extended a warm welcome to several guests for discussion. Ms Jacqui Herring, Executive Director Commissioning and Contracting at Communities delivered a commissioning update on homelessness and overview of Communities commissioning practices and approach. Ms Kaiya Williams, A/Practice Manager Tenancy Support Pilot and Ms Davina Green, A/Program Manager Priority Initiatives, delivered a presentation on Communities' Tenancy Support Pilot. The Advisory Group engaged in

robust discussions during both presentations which highlighted the ongoing progress of work and emphasised the continued collaborative efforts between the government and the sector to end homelessness.

The next meeting of the HFHAG will be held on 29 August 2025.

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