

Western Australian Council on Homelessness

MINUTES OF MEETING Wednesday 6 April 2016

Department for Child Protection and Family Support
189 Royal Street, East Perth
Meeting commenced at 9:05am

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

Present

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| Mr Stanley Jeyaraj | Independent Chair |
| Mr Steve Glew | Department for Child Protection and Family Support |
| Ms Kathleen Gregory | Foundation Housing |
| Ms Jacqui Herring | Housing Authority |
| Mr Don Tunnicliffe | Swan Emergency Accommodation |

In attendance

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| Ms Pippa Monger | Department for Child Protection and Family Support |
| Ms Andrea Martin | Department for Child Protection and Family Support |
| Ms Chantal Roberts | Shelter WA |
| Ms Felicity Horrocks | Churchill Fellowship recipient |

Apologies

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| Ms Julie Yusop | Albany Youth Support Association |
| Mr Daniel Morrison | Aboriginal Alcohol and Drug Services |
| Dr Robyn Martin | Curtin University |
| Ms Ricky Burges | Western Australian Local Government Association |

Acknowledgement to Country made by the Chair.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 2 March 2016

The minutes from the Western Australian Council on Homelessness meeting held on 2 March 2016 were confirmed as an accurate record of the proceedings.

3. Guest Speaker – Ms Chantal Roberts, Executive Officer, Shelter WA

- Ms Roberts provided a history of Shelter WA as a peak body for social and affordable housing, and more recently in the area of homelessness.
- Shelter WA's role in homelessness includes:
 - advocacy, for example partnering with WACOSS to advocate for commitment to sustainable NPAH funding with Federal Members of Parliament;
 - research, for example assisting Cities of Wanneroo and Joondalup to develop Homelessness Strategies;
 - engaging with the sector, for example convening an Advisory Committee on Homelessness and hosting Homelessness Week; and

- specific project work, for example working with the Peel Development Commission on the Peel Secure Housing and Employment Support Strategy.
- Shelter WA are contracted by the Housing Authority to provide policy advice and stakeholder engagement on the Affordable Housing Strategy.
- Shelter WA's membership is under 100 agencies across the sector, including community housing providers, community service organisations supporting housing, private members and government agencies. Shelter WA is working to increase their membership.

Guest Speaker – Felicity Horrocks, Churchill Fellowship Report

- Refer to attached presentation from Felicity Horrocks on her Churchill Fellowship report into innovative programs to reduce homelessness and housing stress for low income families in the United Kingdom, United States and Canada.
- Felicity Horrocks report can be accessed at the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust website www.churchilltrust.com.au/fellows/detail/4033/Felicity+Horrocks .

4. Business Arising

4.1 Government representation at WACH meetings

The Chair to write to the new Minister on issues with Government Department representation.

ACTION: The Chair to write to the Minister regarding poor government representation at WACH meetings.

5. WACH Priority Areas

5.1 State Plans and Regional Plans

The Homelessness Snapshot paper is prepared and awaiting endorsement from the new Minister.

Work progressing with the regional forums, potential dates for Great Southern and Goldfields. Feedback received from funded homelessness services and District offices through a survey on trends, gaps and issues based on local regional level and broadly at a sector level, to be incorporated into the planning for regional forums.

5.2 Sector Consultation

Aboriginal Forum draft minutes tabled. Forum minutes to be included with April WACH minutes when sent to the Minister and further discussion can be held at the May Meeting.

6. General Business

6.1 Leave request from R Burges

Letter from Ms Burges tabled.

6.2 Letter from Minister Morton regarding Mental Health Plan

Letter from former Minister Morton tabled. No further action required.

6.3 Resignation of Dr Robyn Martin

Members were advised that Dr Robyn Martin has tendered her resignation from the Council due to significant work and personal pressures.

6.4 Other Business

The Chair is on leave until 1 August 2016 and the Council term ends on 31 July 2016. The Chair will send an email to WACH community sector members seeking an acting Chairperson for the remainder of the current WACH term.

7. Next Meeting

The meeting was closed at 10:34am.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 4 May, 2016 at 9am.