

**SOUTH-WEST  
REGIONAL HOMELESSNESS PLAN  
2011 – 2012**



## **INTRODUCTION**

A Regional Homelessness Workshop was held at the Light House Beach Resort in Bunbury on 28 September 2011. Its purpose was to build on the South West's 2010 workshop discussion paper and the broad themes and changes that have occurred with funding to address homelessness under the National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness (NPAH) and the National Affordable Housing Agreement (NAHA) see Appendix 2.

The 2011 workshop brought together approximately 25 representatives from a broad range of government agencies and non-government service providers. The direction of the workshop was to review all issues that contribute to homelessness from a local and South West perspective, with a focus on identifying priority actions to address identified homelessness issues. It is intended that these actions will be carried out or commenced in the next 12 months.

A four stage process was used, with workshop participants forming into five groups to discuss the topics presented.

Stage I – In five small groups, participants discussed “What is working well”; “What are we worried about”; and “What needs to happen” on four key areas:-

- HEALTH AND WELL BEING
- CONNECTING WITH COMMUNITY, FAMILY AND FRIENDS
- EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION AND TRAINING
- HOUSING OPTIONS

The issues and ideas raised in Stage I provided the basis for prioritising actions in subsequent stages.

Stage II – Workshop participants used green stickers to indicate four key priority actions from the issues raised in Stage I.

Stage III – In a third process workshop participants then used red stickers to indicate two key priority actions that could be carried out in the next 12 months.

From stages II and III it was possible to determine consensus on which top three actions would be worked on over the next 12 months.

Stage IV – Workshop participants provided further comment on the priority actions and suggested which agencies should be involved to progress each item.

Overall agreement was reached on four priority actions for the South West Regional Homelessness Plan:

1. Develop a Working Group
2. More coordinated case-management structures
3. Homeless Shelter Research Project

#### **Develop a Working Group**

The formation of a South West Homelessness Working Group is fundamental to driving and achieving the priority actions of the regional plan. A regular monthly meeting of government and non-government agency and service representatives would work together to achieve an integrated response to homeless people and those at risk. In addition, the group would engage with and attend the South West Human Services Manager's Group meetings, at least biannually, to discuss and ensure progress on the Regional Homelessness Plan. The group would also focus on issues such as managing the 'three strikes' policy, Social Housing and Community Education

#### **Coordinated Case-Management Structure**

This priority action is to develop a structure and process so agencies that support people who are 'at risk' or homeless can be a part of a co-ordinated approach to case-management. Based on voluntary client involvement the working group will consider existing working models in Strong Families and CCST with a governance based on local Memoranda of Understanding between agencies to facilitate 'common assessment'.

#### **Homeless Shelter Research Project**

This project would involve identifying services and key stakeholders, consultation and the development of a service model and a business case.

## South West Regional Homelessness Plan 2011 -2012

ACTION	KEY STAKEHOLDER PARTNERS	TIME FRAME
<b>PRIORITY 1: Develop a South West Homeless Working Group</b>		
<p>Form working group through Inviting participation from key South West decision makers.</p> <p>Develop a work plan complete with key focus areas, outcomes, measurement and reporting.</p> <p>Progress key focus areas as identified in work plan and report progress to recognise bodies.</p>	<p>DCP, DoH, SWAMS, LAMP, Waratah, AccordWest, Jobs South West, DCS, DSC, MHC, CDST, SWDC, Bunbury Police, CJS, Salv Army, Red Cross, Health Dept., South West Refuge, JSA, Richmond F'ship, Dept of Education, CentreCare. South West Homeless Working Group</p> <p>South West Homeless Working Group, Senior Management Group and DCP.</p>	<p>By 31<sup>st</sup> January 2012</p> <p>By 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012</p> <p>By 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012</p>
<b>PRIORITY 2: Co-Ordinate Case Management</b>		
<p>Form co-ordinated Case Management Group (CCMG)</p> <p>Identify timelines, tasks and key focus areas and reporting timelines.</p> <p>Progress key focus areas as identified in work plan and report progress to South West Homeless Working Group.</p>	<p>DCP, DoH, SWAMS, LAMP, Waratah, AccordWest, Jobs South West, DCS, DSC, MHC, CDST, SWDC, Bunbury Police, CJS, Salv. Army, Red Cross, Health Dept., South West Refuge, JSA, Richmond F'ship.</p> <p>CCMG</p> <p>CCMG, South West Homeless Working Group</p>	<p>By 31<sup>st</sup> January 2012</p> <p>By 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012</p> <p>By 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012</p>

<b>PRIORITY 3: Expand short-medium term supported accommodation options in the South West.</b>		
<p>Form a suitably qualified project team to progress the initiative.</p> <p>Develop an appropriate work plan.</p> <p>Present to the South West homeless working group the results of the research project that identifies the target group, service delivery model, potential funding sources and a detailed business plan.</p>	<p>SWAMS, AccordWest, DoH, Access, DCP, Centrelink, Salv. Army, SW Refuge, Police,</p> <p>Project Team</p> <p>South West Homeless Working Group and Project Team</p>	<p>By 31<sup>st</sup> January 2012</p> <p>By 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012</p> <p>By 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012</p>