

# Western Australian Council on Homelessness

## MINUTES OF MEETING Wednesday 1 April 2015

Department for Child Protection and Family Support  
189 Royal Street, East Perth  
Meeting commenced at 9:00am

### 1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

#### Present

Mr Stanley Jeyaraj	Independent Chair
Ms Emma Colombero	Department of Housing
Mr Steve Glew	Department for Child Protection and Family Support
Ms Kathleen Gregory	Foundation Housing
Ms Helen Grinbergs (arrived 9:30am)	Department of Social Services
Dr Robyn Martin	Curtin University
Ms Anne Moore	The Lucy Saw Centre/ Women's Council for Family and Domestic Violence Services
Mr Daniel Morrison	Aboriginal Alcohol and Drug Services
Mr Don Tunnicliffe	Swan Emergency Accommodation
Ms Julie Yusop	Albany Youth Support Association

#### In attendance

Ms Sandra Flanagan	Department for Child Protection and Family Support
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#### Apologies

Ms Ricky Burges	Western Australian Local Government Association
Mr Eric Dillon	Mental Health Commission

Acknowledgement to Country made by the Chair.

### 2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 March 2015

The minutes from the Western Australian Council on Homelessness meeting held on 4 March 2015 were confirmed as an accurate record of the proceedings.

### 3. Business Arising

#### 3.1 Aboriginal Homelessness Working Group

Deferred to May meeting as the working group has not yet met. The first meeting is scheduled to immediately follow WACH today.

#### 3.2 Scenario Planning Options – *response to the Roundtable*

Mr Glew provided an overview of the Commonwealth offer regarding NPAH. Indexation is not included. The State will be clarifying, with the Commonwealth, reporting requirements, the omission of indexation and pay equity components and the scope of what can be included in the State matching process. Without indexation and provision for salary increases, current levels of service delivery cannot be maintained.

Mr Glew advised that the Scenario Planning Options, as discussed at the February meeting, were emailed to members prior to this meeting. An overview was provided.

Discussion ensued regarding NGOs writing letters to all relevant Federal Members of Parliament to advocate for this funding should the Commonwealth Government not provide the indexation and pay equity funding.

It was highlighted in the meeting that the Reform of the Federation process as an additional avenue to raise the funding need through to the Commonwealth Government.

Ms Grinbergs advised that the Commonwealth is offering some additional ER funding to fill some gaps in provision across the State. More detail to be provided at the next meeting.

**Action:** Commonwealth ER funding to be on the next agenda.

#### **4. WACH Priority Areas**

##### **4.1 State and Regional Plans**

Deferred to next meeting.

##### **4.2 Sector Consultation**

The Chair requested input from members regarding guest speakers, working groups and key areas for discussion with the sector. The following items were raised:

- Children and Youth – options for young people leaving specialist homelessness services. Ms Gregory offered to provide a presentation on the evaluation of the Foyer model, following its first year of operation.
- Family and Domestic Violence sector – new metropolitan model. An information session to be provided to WACH, with consideration of hosting a Roundtable meeting with this focus.
- Dr Martin discussed a study she is undertaking, led by St Patrick's Community Support Centre, focussing on family and crisis accommodation, children and youth experiencing homelessness and the high levels of complexity. It was agreed that a presentation on this to be scheduled for later in the year.
- Increase of CaLD clients – this to be discussed with Dr Martin's research.
- Interface between housing and other service providers.
- Supply of affordable housing - NPAH exit housing, lack of exit housing over the next 5 years, uncertainty regarding the White Paper. Need for Social Housing growth – conversations with the Commonwealth regarding initiatives such as tax incentives.
- It was suggested that the Chair write to the *Regional Homelessness Committees* seeking information on what they are doing and the strategies they have in place.

##### **Actions:**

- Presentation on the Foyer to be scheduled for the May meeting.
- FDV - presentation to be scheduled for the June meeting.
- Housing report - affordable housing strategy/budget/social housing (items TBC) for July meeting.
- Presentation on the study as above – date to be confirmed.
- Chair to write to *Regional Homelessness Committees*.

##### **4.3 Policy advice to the Minister.**

NIL

#### **5. General Business**

##### **5.1 Amaroo**

Mr Glew discussed Amaroo, a disused Hospital (Gosnells) building that has been refurbished and contains a number of bedsits for individuals, couples and families, suitable for short term and perhaps transitional housing. Support services can also be located within the building. A working group was to be initiated by Communicare following the Homelessness Roundtable meeting however this has not come to fruition. WACH members agreed this should be pursued, and a meeting scheduled.

To be invited to the meeting:

- Melissa Perry, Communicare
- Steve Glew, Department for Child Protection and Family Support
- Kathleen Gregory, Foundation Housing
- Anne Moore, The Lucy Saw Centre/ Women's Council for Family and Domestic Violence Services
- Mr Daniel Morrison, Aboriginal Alcohol and Drug Services
- Ms Catherine Spini, Centrecare
- Ms Nina Ulyett, St Bartholomew's
- Ms Sandra Flanagan, Department for Child Protection and Family Support
- Representative from Entry Point
- Representative from the local FSN

<b>Action:</b> meeting to be organised with the above attendees.
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## **5.2 Other business**

Nil.

## **6. Next Meeting**

The Chair thanked members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 10:25am. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 6 May, 2015 at 9am.