



Housing First Homelessness Advisory Group

Communique No. 3

31 August 2023 Meeting

The Housing First Homelessness Advisory Group (Advisory Group) met on 31 August 2023. The meeting was chaired by Caron Irwin, Assistant Director General, Department of Communities.

The Advisory Group developed a twelve-month work program focussing on three priority areas:

1. Strengthening the By Name List
2. Prevention of homelessness
3. Identification of and responses to barriers to delivery of homelessness services

The Advisory Group's first priority area, 'Strengthening the By Name List', was a focus of the August meeting.

The By Name List enables organisations from across the sector to collaboratively track and quantify homelessness. Further information on the By Name List, including real time data, is available from the Western Australian Alliance to End Homelessness [website](#).

The Advisory Group noted the expansion of the By Name List in the Perth metropolitan area, and discussed the risks that an undefined area can pose to the collection of quality data, with regard to the A to Z methodology. The Advisory Group will consider options to manage these risks over the coming months. This will include consideration of impacts on service delivery and data reporting, as well as ways of managing consequences of changes to By Name List geographical boundaries.

The Advisory Group also noted other aspects of the By Name List and its operation for consideration at future meetings. This included geographic coverage, increasing engagement and uptake in existing By Name List locations, potential new areas particularly in the regions, cultural sensitivity around assessment processes and improved data collection tools.

The Advisory Group noted that the State Government response to the findings and recommendations of the Inquiry into the financial administration of homelessness services in Western Australia was tabled in Parliament on 31 August 2023.

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.