



Housing First Homelessness Advisory Group

Communique No. 6

26 February 2024 Meeting

The Housing First Homelessness Advisory Group met on 26 February 2024. Discussions focussed on efforts to reduce rough sleeping in Geraldton and strengthening the By Name List.

The Advisory Group welcomed representatives from the WA Alliance to End Homelessness and Centacare Geraldton to discuss efforts by the community of Geraldton to assist people who are at risk of or experiencing homelessness. Geraldton recently became the third Australian community to achieve a measurable reduction in rough sleeping. This is achieved when a community's By Name List data indicates a measurable, meaningful reduction in rough sleeping for six consecutive months.

The Group acknowledged the commitment of community sector staff and the broader community to building trust and working together to end homelessness. The Group congratulated Geraldton on their achievements and noted their experiences could offer lessons for other communities.

The Advisory Group discussed the role of the By Name List in enabling organisations from across the sector to collaboratively track and quantify homelessness, and recognised the value of the data and the insights it provides. The Group considered several aspects of the By Name List that could be strengthened including:

- Its geographic focus
- Tools and training to support more culturally appropriate data collection
- Better usage of By Name List data to inform service delivery, planning and policy making across government
- Improving communication with people experiencing homelessness and other stakeholders.

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