

Tasmania Project Plan

NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT ON HOMELESSNESS

PART 1: PRELIMINARIES

1. This Project Plan is a schedule to the 2014-15 National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness (NPAH) and should be read in conjunction with that Agreement. The objective in the National Partnership is: *The Parties will sustain their commitment to reducing homelessness through sustained effort and partnerships with business, the not for profit sector and the community.*
2. The NPAH supports Commonwealth and jurisdictions efforts to reduce homelessness levels across Australia, recognising that a reduction in homelessness requires targeting key groups: rough sleepers; people experiencing homelessness more than once, people experiencing violence, especially women and children; children and young people, including those subject to or exiting care and protection; Indigenous people; and people exiting social housing and institutional care, such as health and mental health services, juvenile justice or adult prisons. The relationship between overcrowding, housing and homelessness is also recognised.

PART 2: TERMS OF THIS PROJECT PLAN

3. This Project Plan will commence on 1 July 2014, provided it is agreed between the Commonwealth of Australia, represented by the Minister for Social Services, and Tasmania, represented by the Minister for Human Services.
4. As a schedule to the NPAH, the purpose of this Project Plan is to provide the public with an indication of how the reform or project is intended to be delivered and demonstrate Tasmania's capacity to achieve the outcomes of the NPAH.
5. This Project Plan will cease on completion or termination of the NPAH, including the processing of final payments against performance benchmarks or milestones.
6. This Project Plan may be varied by written agreement between the Commonwealth and State Ministers responsible for it under the overarching NPAH.
7. The Parties to this Project Plan do not intend any of the provisions to be legally enforceable. However, that does not lessen the Parties' commitment to the plan and its full implementation.

PART 3: STRATEGY FOR TASMANIA'S IMPLEMENTATION

Initiative information – Service Continuity

Table 1: Description of initiatives including services funding under each initiative

No.	*Initiative Title	Short description of Initiative	Output/s addressed (refer to Clause 10 of NP)	Name of Service Provider/s	In-scope for SHSC – Yes/No	Seeking Exemption – Yes/No	Exemption Granted by Commonwealth – Yes/No	Requirement for SHSC exempt services and services not in scope: Estimated yearly number of clients to be assisted by service
1	Supported Accommodation Facilities	Continuation of five facilities providing long-term, supported accommodation for people on low incomes who have been homeless or at risk of homelessness.						
		Grove House (Ulverstone)	(a); (b); (c)	Anglicare				
		Thistle Street (Launceston)	(a); (b); (c)	Anglicare				
		Thyne House (Launceston)	(b); (c); (d)	Anglicare	Yes	No		
		Two Common Ground facilities at Campbell St and Goulburn St (Hobart)	(a); (b); (c)	Common Ground Tasmania				

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2	Housing Connect Information System	Enhancements to SHIP to streamline intakes, assessments and referrals within Housing Connect, with the aim of assisting approximately 15 000 presenting clients at the Front Door for housing assistance per annum. This will reduce administration effort to allow more time for support.	(e)	AIHW	No	Yes	Yes	It is estimated that approximately 15 000 presenting clients will be assisted by the Front Door per annum once the HCIS is operational.
3	Intake and assessment services	Additional resources (2 FTEs) to meet demand at the Front Door until the Housing Connect IT system is ready	(e)	Anglicare; Colony 47	No	Yes	Yes	1 660 – based on estimate of 15 000 clients presenting to the Front Door per annum
4	Continuation of intensive tenancy support	Continuation of intensive tenancy support within the Housing Connect model	(b); (c); (d); (f); (g); (i); (l)	Anglicare; Colony 47	Yes	No	n/a	n/a

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5	Pilot private rental model	Pilot a new private rental model statewide that aligns with a housing first model of connecting people to a home and floating support. It will provide tenancy guarantees of up to \$1500 per property and will include as a key target families where children are at risk of homelessness.	(b); (c); (g); (l)	Anglicare; Colony 47	No	Yes	Yes	100
6	Peppercorn Rental subsidies	Continuation of peppercorn rental subsidies offered by the Tasmanian Government to the operators of the Supported Accommodation Facilities and tenants.	(a); (b); (c)	Community Housing Ltd; Common Ground Tasmania	Yes	No	n/a	n/a

***Please note: Initiatives can have numerous programs or projects with different service providers that are delivering specific shared outcomes with time and cost constraints.**

Reform Directions

8. Housing Connect is Tasmania's new one stop shop for housing and homelessness assistance that commenced in July 2013. Effort in 2014-15 will focus on streamlining the Housing Connect system to improve service integration and client support.

With the exception of the Supported Accommodation Facilities, the initiatives described in this Project Plan are contained to 12 months given the one-year term on the NPAH.

Estimated costs

9. The maximum financial contribution to be provided by the Commonwealth to the jurisdiction is \$2.7 million payable in accordance with Part 5 of the NPAH. All payments are exclusive of GST.

Risk management

10. A risk management plan is in place for service delivery initiatives. Risks have been actively identified, entered into a risk log and categorised in terms of impact and likelihood. The risk management plan does not need to be provided to the Commonwealth.

Relevant State or Territory Context

11. In developing this Project Plan consideration has been given to relevant state or territory context. Key factors that have influenced the proposed direction are:
 - a. the establishment of Housing Connect in Tasmania
 - b. continuation of the Supported Accommodation Facilities
 - c. containing initiatives funded under the NPAH to 12 months (excepting the Supported Accommodation Facilities)

Reporting requirements

12. Reporting requirements for jurisdictions under previous NPAHs have been replaced with a requirement for jurisdictions to ensure that NPAH funded agencies participate monthly in the Specialist Homelessness Services Collection (SHSC) administered by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW).
13. The Commonwealth will utilise existing data provided in the SHSC for NPAH reporting. Data will be sourced by the Commonwealth from the SHSC, significantly reducing the reporting burden on jurisdictions.
14. Tasmania agrees to ensure funded services and initiatives that are in-scope for the SHSC participate in the SHSC or have an exemption from participation agreed by the Commonwealth.
15. The Commonwealth will monitor agency reporting in the SHSC. Tasmania agrees to complete information in through the SHSC regarding:
 - a. non-participation indicator and reason (if applicable); and
 - b. NPAH funding indicator.

16. Tasmania agrees to allow the AIHW to provide the Department of Social Services (DSS) information to monitor agency participation in the SHSC and confidentialised client level data, including a unique identifier for NPAH-funded agencies, to inform NPAH reporting on client outcomes in relation to NPAH funding. The data provided by the AIHW will not be able to ascertain the identity of SHS clients and agencies, and will satisfy all privacy and confidentiality requirements.
17. The AIHW will continue to allow three months for agencies to submit their data and will notify DSS of agencies which are required to participate but have not submitted data into the SHSC after the reporting due date.

Sign off

The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this agreement as follows:

Signature

Date

The Hon Jacque Petrusma MP

Signature

Date

The Hon Kevin Andrews MP