

Homelessness Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes (Inaugural)

Thursday, 1 September, 2022

3.30pm - 5.00pm

1. INAUGURAL MEETING OPENING

Chair, Councillor Krista Preece, welcomed everyone to City of Launceston's inaugural meeting of the Homelessness Advisory Committee

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY – Cr Andrea Dawkins**3. ATTENDEES:****Committee:**

Stephen Avery	Community member representative
Lynette Cameron	Community member representative
Allison Mayne	Community member representative
Darren McKay	Community member representative
Kate Ross	Community member representative
Nathan Johnston	Tasmania Police
Liz Bowerman	St Vincent de Paul Society
Roderick Brown	Salvation Army
Louise Cowan	Shekinah House

Proxies:

Jo Marshall	Dept. of Communities/
Juanita Colgrave-Williams	Anglicare

City of Launceston:

Councillor Krista Preece	Chair - Councillor City of Launceston
Councillor Andrea Dawkins	Councillor City of Launceston
Dan Ryan	General Manager, Community & Place
Caralisa Farrell	Team Leader, Community Development
Kath Hawkins	Community Development Officer

Neighbouring Council Representatives:

Councillor Janet Lambert	Northern Midlands Council
Councillor Jess Greene	West Tamar Council

Councillor Rodney Synfield
Councillor Greg Dawson

Meander Valley Council
George Town Council

Guests:

Sara Redman
Allison Bell

Coach + Facilitator + Author + Speaker + MC
UTAS, Head-to-Health Student Work Placement

APOLOGIES AND LEAVE

Stephen Hill
Elizabeth Ward
Jessemy Stone
Nic Green
Denise Leonard
Phillip Redmond

Launceston City Mission
Anglicare Tasmania
Dept. of Communities/Housing
CatholicCare Tasmania
CatholicCare Tasmania (proxy)
Community Representative

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Nil.

6. AGENDA PROPER

Introductions

Committee member introductions completed.

Context | Homelessness Advisory Committee

Dan Ryan, General Manager - Community & Place, provided background and context for the convening of the Homelessness Advisory Committee which was formed in response to a motion moved by Cr Tim Walker (Council Meeting, 21/06/22).

Caralisa Farrell, Team Leader – Community Development provided an overview of the work that the Homelessness Response Group (HRG) has undertaken to date. Council facilitated the HRG as mechanism for local homelessness crisis response services to work together to address identified gaps and challenges in homelessness response.

Dan Ryan reiterated the value of the HRG and its capacity to provide connection to the work that is happening within the community, and provide connection to our homeless community. Examples provided of responses delivered in collaboration were:

- Placement of porta-loos and bins near various camps

- Extension of operating hours of the Council's owned and operated shower and toilet facilities showers at YMCA with access overseen by Launceston Benevolent Society
- Working towards the provision of mobile showers
- Assistance to place StrikeltOut's Homeless Lockers in the community so that local homeless people have access to a dry, secure place to store belongings.
- City of Launceston continues to proactively engage with State and Federal Governments along with a range of service providers to identify potential options to address the housing needs of the City.

Facilitated Session – Sara Redman

Sara Redman facilitated a discussion between Committee members. Sara has also volunteered to facilitate sub-committee meetings as as required.

The facilitated session included:

- Ground Rules for the committee were developed by attendees
- Reiteration of the committee's purpose as defined in the Terms of Reference (see appendix)
- Identification of initial possible shared goals which the committee can commit to in the short-term, mid-term and longer term, along with associated priority actions, and related relevant themes.

Messaging

A discussion regarding messaging (in and out) for the Homelessness Advisory Committee. Minutes will provide an overview of the meetings and will be a public document.

- Minutes will be circulated to the committee as draft for feedback. They will be posted as a public document on City of Launceston's website once accepted at the next meeting.
- The committee will report back to Council on the outcomes of Homelessness Advisory Committee meetings
- Any Committee members without access to a printer can request that council provide a printed copy for collection from council. Requests can be sent to Cr Dawkins and Cr Preece who are happy to facilitate this access.
- Hardcopy minutes will be posted on the community noticeboard, or the like in customer service for public access. For example, by local homeless people who might not have access to technology.

Meeting Frequency

Terms of Reference only require the Committee to meet bi-monthly. However, the Committee expressed a willing commitment to meet monthly while the Homelessness Advisory Committee becomes established. This will be reviewed as required.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

- Darren McKay (Head to Health) offered to organise an NDIS Housing and Homelessness speaker to inform the Committee on this aspect of service provision to people experiencing homelessness.
- Darren McKay reported that the new Mental Health outreach worker at Richmond Fellowship will begin shortly.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTING TO COUNCIL

- No report considered by Council

9. CORRESPONDENCE

- University of Tasmania School of Architecture & Design lecturer, Dr Richard Burnham, has emailed council (via Cr Dawkins) to offer their experience and expertise in the development of shelter options working alongside other individuals and organisations and expressed interest in presenting to the Committee.

10. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER REPORT

- No report.

11. UPCOMING MEETING DATES

- **Next Meeting:** Thursday 29 September, 3.30pm
Location: To be advised

12. SESSION REVIEW

- General agreement the facilitated session delivered by Sara Redman had been worthwhile.

ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY	DUE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Terms of Reference to incorporate reference to the expanded to recognise the regional collaboration by Councils 	Dan Ryan	By next meeting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee contact emails to be shared 	Caralisa Farrell	“
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide compact statement of own homelessness support services for inclusion in summary card 	Service Providers	“
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summary card of current homelessness support services to be updated and made available and accessible, both digitally and in hard copy 	Caralisa Farrell	Depends on above action
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a summary of information from the Homelessness Response Group meeting 	Kath Hawkins	By next meeting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sara to provide summary of inaugural meeting identified goals and actions 	Sara Redman	Within one week of meeting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Circulate invitations for next meeting 	Caralisa Farrell	“
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare for second meeting in one month to continue work on initial goals and action priorities 	Sara Redman	By next meeting

Meeting Closed: 5.00 pm

APPENDIX

TERMS OF REFERENCE: Homelessness Advisory Committee Purpose

PURPOSE: Homelessness is a complex issue and there are many factors that contribute to a person's homelessness. Many of these factors lie outside the remit of local government, however through an educated, collaborative and needs focussed approach, the City of Launceston is committed to working with community to play a constructive role in the provision of strategies and actions to support the homeless community.

The primary purpose of the Homelessness Advisory Committee is to:

- Enable a collaborative approach between key sector service providers, community members and relevant levels of government in addressing the short, medium and long-term needs of Launceston's homeless community.
- Identify, support and coordinate achievable actions which will assist in addressing the evolving needs of Launceston's homeless community.
- Develop a greater and shared understanding of the roles, responsibilities and priorities within the community in responding to homelessness.

MOTION RELATING TO THE CONVENING OF THE HOMELESSNESS ACTION COMMITTEE

City of Launceston
Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday 5 May 2022

DECISION: 5 May 2022

MOTION

Moved Councillor T G Walker, seconded Councillor R I Soward.

That Council:

1. within the next 30 days:
 - (a) immediately identify Council sites appropriate for the provision of access to basic facilities for people who are homeless.
 - (b) identify any appropriate Council owned sites suitable for the provision of space for camping within access to facilities and service provider supervision.
 - (c) provide preliminary estimates for costings for all opportunities identified and suggested amendments to the draft 2022/2023 budget if required.
2. directly engage Governments, service providers, police and charities via the establishment of a Committee of Council, with at least two Councillor members, for the drafting of a *Homelessness Action Plan* for Launceston.

CARRIED 11:0

FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor A M van Zetten, Deputy Mayor D C Gibson, Councillor R I Soward, Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor K P Stojansek, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor N D Daking, Councillor P S Spencer, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker and Councillor K M Preece
AGAINST VOTE: Nil