

## Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven

**Meeting Date:** Monday, 02 December, 2019  
**Location:** Jervis Bay Rooms, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra  
**Time:** 4.00pm

**Please note:** Council's Code of Meeting Practice permits the electronic recording and broadcast of the proceedings of meetings of the Council which are open to the public. Your attendance at this meeting is taken as consent to the possibility that your image and/or voice may be recorded and broadcast to the public.

### Agenda

1. **Apologies**
2. **Confirmation of Minutes**
  - Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven - 23 September 2019..... 1
3. **Declarations of Interest**
4. **Presentations**
  - HT19.11 Presentation - Southern Cross Community Housing  
*Eric Coulter, Manager, Access and Demand, Southern Cross Community Housing.*
  - HT19.12 My Best Life Australia  
*A representative of My Best Life Australia will give a presentation on their project.*
5. **Reports**
  - HT19.13 Notification - Council Resolution - Re-establishment of Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven ..... 3
  - HT19.14 Update on Actions - December 2019 ..... 9
  - HT19.15 Public Housing in the Shoalhaven ..... 14
  - HT19.16 Homelessness Services Tour ..... 15
  - HT19.17 Affordable Housing Strategy ..... 16
6. **General Business**

**Membership**

Clr Findley - Chairperson

All Councillors

Chief Executive Officer or Nominee

Tamie Harvie - Community / volunteer – interested in mental health and D&A

Penni Wildi – Community Member / Waminda

Wendy Woodward - Nowra Show Society / community volunteer

Deborah Ferrier – Community volunteer

Lesley Labka - SAHSSI – Shoalhaven Women’s Homeless and DV Service

Wendi Hobbs - Shoalhaven Suicide Prevention and Awareness Network (SSPAN)

Rev Matthew Wilson – Nowra Uniting Church

Patricia David – Unions Shoalhaven

Peter Dover – Salt Ministries

Roslyn Poole - ISLHD – Homelessness Mental Health Program

Ashleigh Hudson - Mobile Response Vehicle coordinator (services for homeless)

Alan Heard – Nowra Baptist Church

Julie Bugden - Shoalhaven Homelessness Hub

Bernard Gleeson - St Vincent De Paul Nowra

Sharlene Naismith – Legal Aid

Natalie Beckett - HARP Unit – Sexual Health & Blood Borne Infections; and Aboriginal community member

Eric Coulter - Southern Cross Community Housing

Nicky Sloan – Community Industry Group

Quorum - 8

**Purpose**

To provide appropriate and considered strategic advice on homelessness and related issues that can be dealt with at Council level. The Taskforce will work with Council to address issues, develop options and assist with the identification of preferred solutions as part of Council’s decision making process.

**Role of the Taskforce**

The role of the Homelessness Taskforce is:-

- Provide Council with strategic advice on homelessness and related issues that can be dealt with at a Local Government level.
- Work with Council to address issues, develop options and assist with the identification of preferred solutions as part of Council’s decision making process
- Advise on the development and application of a Homelessness Strategic Plan
- Provide comment on relevant Council policies and strategies
- Advocate community views on homelessness issues

**Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven - The Wish List:**

- Plan and Strategy for dealing with homelessness and any ‘incidents’ that arise
- Adopting the Affordable Housing Strategy to Shoalhaven
- Permanent Shelter for the Shoalhaven
- Education of the community (possibly a forum)
- Building connections between homeless persons and wrap around services

- Permanent but temporary accommodation
- Future of Public Housing – mapping the way forward and advocating for tenants
- Business Involvement
- Plan and Policy for Emergency nights (crisis accommodation)
- Creating policy that works on the ground (Homeless protocol for the showground as an example)
- Improving life outcomes for those who have experienced/are experiencing homelessness
- What Next? – who can help after the Safe Shelter closes?
- Continue to lobbying for the State Government to get on board with the demonstration affordable housing site at Bomaderry
- Knowing who the homeless are (anywhere between 100 – 375 homeless on any given night in the Shoalhaven)

## MINUTES OF THE HOMELESSNESS TASKFORCE SHOALHAVEN

**Meeting Date:** Monday, 23 September 2019

**Location:** E-Meeting

**Time:**

The following members participated:

Clr Patricia White

Stephen Dunshea – Chief Executive Officer

Lesley Labka – SAHSSI – Shoalhaven Women's Homeless and DV Service

Rev Matthew Wilson – Nowra Uniting Church

Patricia David – Unions Shoalhaven

Sharlene Naismith – Legal Aid

Nicky Sloan – Community Industry Group

Alan Heard – Nowra Baptist Church

### Apologies / Leave of Absence

An apology was received from Clr Kitchener.

### Confirmation of the Minutes

**RESOLVED** (By Consent)

That the Minutes of the Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven held on Monday 17 June 2019 be confirmed.

CARRIED

### Declarations of Interest

Nil

## REPORTS

**HT19.10 September 2019 - Status Report**

**HPERM Ref:  
D19/262080**

**RESOLVED** (By Consent)

That the Homelessness Taskforce:

1. Receive the September 2019 Action Table (Attachment 1) for its information; and
2. Note that item 3 – Housing and Mental Health Agreement Review – is now complete and will be removed from the Action List.

FOR: Cllr White, Lesley Labka, Matthew Wilson, Sharlene Naismith, Nicky Sloan, Alan Heard and Stephen Dunshea

AGAINST: Patricia David

CARRIED

There being no further business, the meeting concluded.

Chief Executive Officer \*

\* Note that given this was an E-Meeting with no nominated Chairperson the Chief Executive Officer is the signatory to the Minutes.

## HT19.13 Notification - Council Resolution - Re-establishment of Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven

**HPERM Ref:** D19/336852

**Group:** Finance Corporate & Community Services Group  
**Section:** Human Resources, Governance & Risk

**Attachments:** 1. Terms of Reference [↓](#)

### Purpose / Summary

To advise the Homelessness Taskforce of Council's resolution in relation to the re-establishment of the Taskforce and the appointment of Chairperson/s.

### Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the Taskforce receive the report on the Council Resolution – Re-establishment of Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven for information.

### Options

1. As recommended.

Implications: Cllr Findley is appointed as Chairperson for the period to 30 September 2020, and the membership structure as specified in the Council Resolution is adopted.

2. Propose a different Chairperson or membership arrangement.

Implications: Should the Taskforce wish to make the recommendation in option 2, this is required to go to Council for approval.

### Background

Each year in September Council reaffirms all its committees for the next 12 months. At that meeting Council has the option to: reaffirm its committees; make any change to membership, purpose, delegation, quorum, and the number of meetings required for those committees; or disband committees.

At the Extra Ordinary meeting on 20 September 2019 Council resolved as follows:

### CL19.243 Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven (55584E)

#### RESOLVED

MIN19.675

That Council continue the operation of Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven for the period to 30 September 2020 as outlined below:

<u>Meetings per year</u> – Four (4) Commencement time: 4pm	Quorum – Eight (8) Terms of Reference: <a href="#">POL17/77</a> Amended: 15 August 2017
<b>Purpose</b> To provide appropriate and considered strategic advice on homelessness and related issues that can be dealt with at Council level. The Taskforce will work with Council to	

HT19.13

address issues, develop options and assist with the identification of preferred solutions as part of Council's decision making process.
<p><b>Role of the Committee</b></p> <p>The role of the Homelessness Taskforce is:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide Council with strategic advice on homelessness and related issues that can be dealt with at a Local Government level.</li> <li>• Work with Council to address issues, develop options and assist with the identification of preferred solutions as part of Council's decision making process</li> <li>• Advise on the development and application of a Homelessness Strategic Plan</li> <li>• Provide comment on relevant Council policies and strategies</li> <li>• Advocate community views on homelessness issues</li> </ul>
<b>Delegation</b> – NIL
<b>Chairperson</b> – Appointed by the Committee (previously appointed Clr Findley)
<p><b>2019-2020 Councillor/Staff Membership</b></p> <p>Clr Findley (Chairperson)          All Councillors          CEO</p>
<p><b>Community / Organisational Representatives</b></p> <p>Currently 18 representatives from Government/Non-government agencies, Organisations, and community members</p>

This report is provided to inform the Taskforce members of the resolution of the Council. Should the Taskforce wish to make any changes to the above, a recommendation to Council will be required to that effect.

**Policy Implications**

No amendments to the Terms of Reference have been made by this resolution.

HT19.13



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Website: [www.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au](http://www.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au)

For more information contact the Finance Corporate & Community Services Group

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## Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven - Terms of Reference

*Policy Number: POL17/77 • Adopted: 21/03/2017 • Amended: 15/08/2017 • Minute Number: MIN17.196, MIN17.713 • File: 55584E • Produced By: Finance Corporate & Community Services Group • Review Date: 1/12/2020*

### 1. PURPOSE

To provide appropriate and considered strategic advice on homelessness and related issues that can be dealt with at Council level. The Taskforce will work with Council to address issues, develop options and assist with the identification of preferred solutions as part of Council's decision making process.

### 2. STATEMENT

Homelessness is a growing problem in all communities throughout Australia. On any given night in Australia 1 in 200 people are homeless. (Homelessness Australia). On census night in 2011 the Shoalhaven Local Government Area recorded 375 homeless people. Only about 6% of these are 'rough sleepers' ie those in improvised dwellings, tents or sleeping out.

Of those who are homeless 56% are male and 25% are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. Homelessness may be defined as: "when a person does not have suitable accommodation alternatives they are considered homeless if their current living arrangement:

- is in a dwelling that is inadequate; or
  - has no tenure, or if their initial tenure is short and not extendable; or
  - does not allow them to have control of, and access to space for social relations."
- (Australian Bureau of Statistics)

People become homeless for a number of reasons. This can be due to structural factors such as lack of income, lack of affordable housing or rental accommodation, cost of living pressures, discrimination, poverty or lack of superannuation funds in retirement. Or it could be due to system failures such as children exiting from the care system, discharge from prison, hospital, rehabilitation or other institution. This is compounded by individual circumstances such as domestic violence, addictions, traumatic events, mental illness or physical health and disability.

There are no short term solutions to the issue of homelessness in the Shoalhaven. Without the provision of increased Government funding to provide longer term temporary accommodation and fund services to provide an increased number of emergency beds for men, women and children the situation can only continue to degenerate. Long term solutions involve the construction of affordable housing.



### **3. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

#### **3.1. Relationship to Council**

The Homelessness Taskforce is a Section 355 & 377 Committee of Council (Local Government Act 1993).

It is a strategic advisory committee to advocate for and inform Council's decision making process related to homelessness in the Shoalhaven.

#### **3.2. Role of the Taskforce**

The role of the Homelessness Taskforce is:-

- Provide Council with strategic advice on homelessness and related issues that can be dealt with at a Local Government level.
- Work with Council to address issues, develop options and assist with the identification of preferred solutions as part of Council's decision making process
- Advise on the development and application of a Homelessness Strategic Plan
- Provide comment on relevant Council policies and strategies
- Advocate community views on homelessness issues

#### **3.3. Membership**

Membership of the Taskforce is open to members of the community with an interest in addressing issues of homelessness across the Shoalhaven.

The membership of the taskforce will comprise of:

- Representatives from community representatives being either Government/Non-Government agencies/organisations and community members.
- All Councillors be members of the taskforce.
- The General Manager or nominee.

The process for nomination to the taskforce will be as follows:

- An Expression of Interest will be advertised for membership of the taskforce. The Expression of Interest will be advertised locally via media and Council communication networks.
- Council will manage the application process.
- Appointment to the Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven can be for a maximum four (4) years with a set commencement and finish date and standing members may re-nominate for an additional term.
- Any individual, representatives of an organisation, service or agency, who agree to work within the purpose of the taskforce may nominate to become a member.
- Organisations, services, agencies or residents groups may only nominate one representative.
- The taskforce aims to include the voices of all stakeholders, and welcomes the participation of those who have a lived experience of homelessness.
- An interview panel will consist of a Council staff member, the Chair of the Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven and one (1) independent person will assess the applications and make recommendations for appointments to the taskforce and then Council.

#### **3.4. Meetings**

- The taskforce will meet on a quarterly basis and more frequently if required
- Agendas and minutes from previous meetings will be circulated to members at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting

*Shoalhaven City Council - Shoalhaven Homelessness Taskforce - Terms of Reference*

- The Chair of the Taskforce will be appointed for a term of two (2) years and is open to all members of the Taskforce.
- A quorum will consist of eight (8) members of the Committee.

**3.5. Voting**

- Voting and Recommendations are made by consensus and all decisions must be stated precisely for the inclusion of the minutes.
- Where a consensus cannot be reached then the majority of 60% of those present can adopt a motion.
- Alternative views are to be minuted.

**3.6. Code of Conduct**

- Meetings be conducted in an informal manner, but still within Council's 'Code of Conduct' Policy which all members are required to observe.
- Taskforce members should act in a professional, responsible and respectful manner with the information they obtain as a member.
- Taskforce members must at all times respect other members when expressing their opinions and views. Members should feel free to express their opinions without fear of recrimination.

**3.7. Confidentiality and Privacy**

Members may have contact with confidential or personal information retained by Council. If so, members are required to maintain the security of any confidential or personal information and not access, use or remove any information, unless the member is authorised to do so.

**3.8. Communication**

- All issues must be clearly communicated including priorities, limitations and benefits to community.
- Members of the Taskforce are not permitted to speak to the media as representatives of the Taskforce unless approved by the chairperson.
- Where approval has been given by the Chairperson, views and opinions expressed are those of the Taskforce and not of Shoalhaven City Council.
- Where endorsement is required from Shoalhaven City Council, approval must be sought through the formal processes.

**3.9. Council Staff Attendance**

Shoalhaven City Council will provide administrative Council staff who are normally required to attend the meetings of the Advisory Committee to carry out the following tasks:

- Collate and distribute Business Papers.
- Organise meetings.
- Minute taking, storage and distribution of minutes and associated documents.
- Providing administrative support to the Community Development Team to distribute information between the Committee and the Community Development Team.
- Other staff at the relevant Group Directors' discretion or at the Advisory Committee's request can attend meetings as required. Staff have no voting privileges.

**3.10. Expectation of Taskforce Members**

Pecuniary Interest Returns may be required on appointment and annually as required by the Office of Local Government and Council.

*Shoalhaven City Council - Shoalhaven Homelessness Taskforce - Terms of Reference*

**3.11. Responsibility of Council**

Council at its discretion may review and change the Terms of Reference, Role and Structure of the Taskforce.

**4. REVIEW**

After every Council election.

## HT19.14 Update on Actions - December 2019

**HPERM Ref:** D19/392216

**Section:** Recreation Community & Culture

**Approver:** Jane Lewis, Acting Director Finance Corporate & Community Services

**Attachments:** 1. Outstanding Action Report - December 2019 [↓](#)

### Reason for Report

To provide the Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven with a progress report regarding actions and resolutions that have been made at previous meetings of the Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven.

### Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven receive the Update on Actions report for information.

### Options

1. Adopt the recommendation as above.

Implications: The Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven is updated about progress of actions and recommendations made at previous meetings of the Taskforce.

2. Request more information.

Implications: Members of the Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven will be provided additional detail as requested.

### Background

This report is to update the Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven on the actions and resolutions of the Taskforce from previous reports.

Subject to the Taskforce concurring that satisfactory progress has been made to complete several items on the December Action Sheet Report, the Taskforce is requested to adopt the recommendation.

Attachment 1 provides information regarding the status of actions and resolutions that have been made at previous meetings, including items that are still works in progress. Staff will be able to provide an update at the meeting should members have any further questions on the status of actions.

### Community Engagement

It is important that the members of the Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven are kept informed about progress towards the completion of actions and projects. This report provides a structured approach to facilitate this information exchange.

Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven		Action Sheets Report
<b>Meeting Name</b> Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven 17/06/2019	<b>Item No.</b> HT19.6	<b>Group:</b> Planning Environment & Development Group
<b>Title:</b> Shoalhaven Homelessness & Good Living Interagency - Annual Progress Report - Affordable Housing Strategy <b>RESOLVED</b> (Patricia David / Clr Digiglio) That the Shoalhaven Homelessness Taskforce: 1. Receive copies of the Homelessness and Good Living Interagency minutes for February, March and April 2019 for their information; 2. Acknowledge the Homelessness and Good Living Interagency Position Paper; 3. Receive an annual report that outlines progress against KPIs that are contained in the Shoalhaven Affordable Housing Strategy. CARRIED		<b>Completed:</b> <b>DECEMBER 2019</b> Staff investigating most appropriate ways to compile the annual KPI information that has been requested.
<b>Meeting Name</b> Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven 04/03/2019	<b>Item No.</b> HT19.1	<b>Group:</b> Finance Corporate & Community Services Group
<b>Title:</b> Homelessness Communications Plan – Hypothetical Case Studies – Monthly Media Releases – Establishing Working Group <b>RESOLVED</b> (Matthew Wilson / Clr Digiglio) That: 1. Taskforce members endorse the Homelessness Taskforce Communication Plan 2. The following actions be undertaken during the period January 2019 – June 2019: a. Develop a series of hypothetical case studies to explain homelessness and its impact b. Compile and distribute monthly media releases to highlight the Taskforce in the media and engage the public 3. A working group be established to support Council's Community Development Team to develop hypothetical case studies and regular monthly media releases, comprising: Wendi Hobbs, Peter Dover, Matt Wilson, Clr Levett CARRIED		<b>Completed:</b> 24/10/2018 <b>JUNE 2019</b> The working group is scheduled to meet on Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> May 2019 to discuss the scope of the project and to develop a project and communications plan. A verbal update will be provided to members at the June 19 meeting. <b>SEPTEMBER 2019</b> The first media release (available at <a href="https://www.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/My-Council/Media-Releases/ID/3254/Homelessness-Taskforce-Shoalhaven">https://www.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/My-Council/Media-Releases/ID/3254/Homelessness-Taskforce-Shoalhaven</a> ) was published on 1 <sup>st</sup> August 2019 provided background information on the Taskforce which included when it was established and its role, as well as the most recent activities of the Taskforce.

Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven	Action Sheets Report
	<p><b>DECEMBER 2019</b> The second media release (available at <a href="https://www.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/My-Council/Media-Releases/ID/3326/Homelessness-Taskforce-Supports-Shoalhavens-Most-Vulnerable">https://www.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/My-Council/Media-Releases/ID/3326/Homelessness-Taskforce-Supports-Shoalhavens-Most-Vulnerable</a>) was published on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019, highlighting that affording appropriate housing whilst living sustainably can be difficult in the Shoalhaven. This media release was published in the nations HousingINFO newsletter.</p> <p>The third media release (available at <a href="https://shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/My-Council/Media-Releases/ID/3375/Early-Intervention-Key-to-Avoiding-Chronic-Homelessness-Crisis">https://shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/My-Council/Media-Releases/ID/3375/Early-Intervention-Key-to-Avoiding-Chronic-Homelessness-Crisis</a>) was published on the 30<sup>th</sup> October 2019. The media release focused on the causes and signs of homelessness amongst men, encouraging Shoalhaven residents to be aware of signs of hardship in the community and encouraging residents to offer support early on in a crisis.</p> <p>At the time of completing this report, there are two outstanding case studies and media releases, these are scheduled to be published in November and December 2019. The working group continues to meet to develop the content for two remaining hypothetical case studies and media releases.</p>

Meeting Name	Item No.	Group:
Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven 17/06/2019	HT19.5	Finance Corporate & Community Services Group
<b>Title:</b> May 2019 - Status Report Received - Request FACS Statistics		<b>Completed:</b> 16/07/2019
<p><b>RESOLVED</b> (Wendi Hobbs / Matthew Wilson)</p> <p>That the Homelessness Taskforce:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Receive the May 2019 Status report for information.</li> <li>2. Note Item 5 - Shoalhaven Housing Strategy Media Release – is now complete and will be removed from the Action List.</li> </ol>		<p><b>JULY 2019</b> Action item 2,4 and 5 have been removed from the action table. Quarterly homelessness statistics have been requested from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. Media Release Forms have been logged in TRIM.</p>

Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven	Action Sheets Report															
<p>3. Note that items 2 and 4 will be removed from the Action List.</p> <p>4. Request homelessness statistics be provided by FACS on a quarterly basis.</p> <p>5. Members complete and return the Media Release Forms to facilitate media releases.</p> <p>CARRIED</p>	<p><b>SEPTEMBER 2019</b></p> <p>Quarterly statistics on Client Counts for Specialist Homelessness Services in the Shoalhaven Local Government Area are not publicly available. Community Development has followed up with the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare – Housing and Homelessness Collection Operations requesting quarterly statistics reported by Specialist Homelessness Services in the Shoalhaven. The taskforce will be kept updated in this regard.</p> <p>Annual statistics on Client Counts for Specialist Homelessness Services in the Shoalhaven Local Government Area from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.</p> <p>SHSC geographical location of client – LGA</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Financial year</th> <th>2014-15</th> <th>2015-16</th> <th>2016-17</th> <th>2017-18</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Client count</td> <td>Client count</td> <td>Client count</td> <td>Client count</td> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Shoalhaven (C)</td> <td>765</td> <td>1,063</td> <td>1,057</td> <td>1,080</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2018, CHSC geographical location of client – LGA, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Canberra, Available at <a href="https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports-data/health-welfare-services/homelessness-services/data">https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports-data/health-welfare-services/homelessness-services/data</a></p> <p>Council is also looking at subscribing to an extension of its existing online population information tools that are supplied by iD called 'housing.id' that may provide an ongoing evidence base on housing supply, demand and affordability in Shoalhaven. The Taskforce will be kept up dated in this regard.</p> <p><b>DECEMBER 2019</b></p> <p>At the time of writing this report, Council has received a response from the NSW Department of Communities and Justice.</p>	Financial year	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18		Client count	Client count	Client count	Client count	Shoalhaven (C)	765	1,063	1,057	1,080
Financial year	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18												
	Client count	Client count	Client count	Client count												
Shoalhaven (C)	765	1,063	1,057	1,080												

**Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven**

**Action Sheets Report**

Council has been provided with a Client Information Management System (CIMS) user account and login details. The Department of Communities and Justice describe CIMS as a platform that “...is used by funded providers of Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) in New South Wales. SHS providers use SIMS in order to manage client records, make referrals and access service information.”

Council staff have been advised that CIMS data does not include information for services or providers that provide homelessness service in the Shoalhaven. Council staff will review the data provided and that which is available through CIMS and will update Taskforce members of progress at the next Taskforce meeting in April 2020.



## HT19.15 Public Housing in the Shoalhaven

HPERM Ref: D19/396415

Submitted by: Patricia David, Unions Shoalhaven

### Recommendation

That the Homelessness Taskforce recommend that Council:

1. Write to the State Government Minister for Families, Communities and Disability, The Hon. Gareth Ward, MP, State Member for the South Coast, The Hon. Shelley Hancock, and the Federal Member for Gilmore, Fiona Phillips MP to urge an increase in availability for Public Housing be funded and that all levels of governments act to reduce waitlists, especially for people who have been identified as having priority. This action should occur within this current term of government.
2. Note that areas in the Sanctuary Point and St. George's Basin do not have any allocated properties for Public Housing and should be included in funding to support availability.

### Details

Recently the long waiting times for public housing, especially in the Shoalhaven and South Coast, have been highlighted. Below is a list of expected waiting times in areas of the Shoalhaven taken from NSW Government Family & Community Website as at 30 June 2018:

<https://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/housing/help/applying-assistance/expected-waiting-times>

Nowra – Applicants 748	Priority 57
Ulladulla – Applicants 152	Priority 25
Berry – Applicants 19	Priority Nil
Huskisson – Applicants 24	Priority 3
Sussex Inlet – Applicants 22	Priority Nil

There is no public housing access for people living in the other villages in the Shoalhaven other than those listed above. Many people have indicated a need in the St. George's Basin Area of Sanctuary Point.

HT19.15

## **HT19.16 Homelessness Services Tour**

**HPERM Ref:** D19/408328

**Submitted by:** Wendi Hobbs

### **Recommendation**

That Councillors and Council staff provide verbal feedback to the meeting from the homeless service tour.

### **Details**

Local Government is the closest government to the people. This being the case, could staff and Councillors who attended the tour of homeless services reflect on how this experience could be used to inform social policy and assist in the reduction of homelessness in the Shoalhaven.

HT19.16

## **HT19.17 Affordable Housing Strategy**

**HPERM Ref:** D19/408351

**Submitted by:** Wendi Hobbs

### **Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)**

That the Taskforce request Council provide a report on Affordable Housing Strategy outcomes.

### **Details**

The strategy has been in place since March 2018. Can council please report on any clear outcomes to the reduction in homelessness in the Shoalhaven as a direct result of the strategy.

HT19.17