

Supporting Communities Forum Update

The Supporting Communities Forum (the Forum) was established in late 2017 to support the implementation of the State Government's Supporting Communities policy which is focused on improving the quality of services provided to vulnerable Western Australians. The Forum met for the first time on 19 March 2018, with the second quarterly meeting held on 18 June 2018.

Seven working groups were established at the Forum's inaugural meeting to address the priorities of the Forum as identified by the Premier. A list of working group topics and members is available on the [Forum's webpage](#). Each working group is currently finalising a project plan, which are expected to be released shortly.

The work of the Forum is informed by a number of public sector reform processes currently underway in Western Australia. At its March meeting, the Forum was briefed by Michelle Andrews, Deputy Director General of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet (DPC) on the recommendations from the Service Priority Review. This was followed by an update from the DPC's Public Sector Reform Unit at the June meeting about initiatives to shape the reform process. The slides from this presentation are available [here](#). Grahame Searle, Director General of the Department of Communities also presented to the Forum at its June meeting, providing an overview of the new Department's own reform agenda and new ways of working. The slides from this presentation are available [here](#).

A range of commitments of the Supporting Communities policy are aimed at improving and streamlining government community services procurement practice and processes. At its June meeting the Forum discussed the draft revised Delivering Community Services in Partnership Policy and provided feedback for consideration by Government. Information on the draft revised Policy is available [here](#).

The Forum's Chairperson, Ms Michelle Scott, welcomes opportunities to meet individuals and organisations to gain insight on how the Forum can engage with and build relationships across government agencies and community organisations. Interested parties are encouraged to contact the Forum secretariat in the first instance to arrange this.

The Forum's next quarterly meeting will be held on 17 September 2018. Further information, can be found on the [Department of Premier and Cabinet website](#) or by emailing the Forum secretariat via SCF@dpc.wa.gov.au