



WEEK 1 TASKFORCE PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

Progress

The Department of Communities (Communities) is working in partnership with Nous Group (Nous) and the community sector to review and refresh the approach of the taskforces.

In the last week, several activities were undertaken, including:

- **Engagement with leaders from Communities and the community sector.** A series of interviews were conducted with leaders to understand what has worked and what has not worked in relation to the taskforces, and what the taskforces require for the future.
- **The Tuesdays at Twelve webinar.** Michelle Andrews, Director General of Communities was joined by Emma White, the Nous team lead, at the Tuesdays at Twelve webinar. The webinar focussed on the taskforces and introduced the partnership Communities is undertaking with Nous and the community sector.
- **Review of relevant documents.** Nous has undertaken a rapid desktop review of documents provided to them by the Community Sector Partnerships team, to deepen their understanding of taskforces key challenges and future requirements.
- **Development of an early insights report.** The insights gathered from interviews with Communities and community sector leaders and the desktop review were summarised into a brief early insights report.
- **Working session with the Communities Sector Partnership Team.** A working session with representatives was held to share and test early insights and identify potential solutions to taskforces key challenges.
- **Commenced development of solutions in partnership with the Community Sector Partnerships team.** A list of priority solutions to develop (which are listed below) has been compiled and work has begun on developing these solutions.
- **Engagement with co-chairs of the taskforces.** A series of interviews are being conducted with the taskforce co-chairs. The purpose of these interviews is to understand what the priority challenges are for the taskforces, and test the draft solutions for feedback. Through these interviews, further solutions to be developed.

The interviews with leaders from Communities and the community sector showed that all parties remain committed to the *intent* of the taskforces: *to mitigate the immediate and enduring impacts of COVID-19 on vulnerable people in the Western Australian community.*

However, taskforces face a range of challenges in the current state relating to their purpose, activities, governance, and capability and culture that need to be resolved.



Solutions

Communities, Nous and the Community Sector Partnerships team are currently working together to develop solutions to the key challenges and issues that have been identified thus far. Solutions in development include:

- A decision-making and authorising environment matrix to clarify and provide clarity on the authorising environment
- Enhanced taskforce Terms of Reference to provide clarity on taskforces' purpose and objectives
- A partnership charter, including principles of partnership, to guide how government and the community sector work together moving forward
- A partnership maturity model to support Communities understand a pathway to a desired future state of strategic partnership
- A COVID-19 response, recovery, normalisation transition map to communicate how and when taskforces will transition
- A process for addressing long-term systemic issues that have been raised and 'parked' throughout the taskforce process
- A set of taskforce communication and engagement plans and protocols
- Mechanisms for government and sector taskforce co-chairs to come together
- A register or platform to monitor taskforce actions to provide a line of sight on what each taskforce is working on
- A capability development and support plan
- Data modelling of demand and supply across sub-sectors to support taskforces make decisions based on data, noting that lots of data and information has already been shared.