

HOUSING FIRST HOMELESSNESS ADVISORY GROUP

Statement by Minister for Housing

MR J.N. CAREY (Perth — Minister for Housing) [9.14 am]: I rise to inform the house on the commencement of the Housing First Homelessness Advisory Group. This advisory group will comprise 17 respected community and government leaders, experts and an individual with lived experience who will guide and support the implementation of *All paths lead to a home: Western Australia's 10-year strategy on homelessness 2020–2030*. The group's expertise spans a range of areas, including tenancy law, frontline support services, local government, community housing organisations, and tenancy law and supports. The group will provide advice to me as the minister about reforms that align with a Housing First Homelessness Initiative and No Wrong Door approach across the homelessness sector, including addressing identified barriers in the system. It will also provide expert advice to guide the implementation of the strategy agreed between the sector and government and to ensure that the reforms outlined in the strategy are fully implemented.

The government is focused on delivering a Housing First approach that is evidence based and provides tangible long-term outcomes. We are investing \$2.4 billion in housing and homelessness programs and services in Western Australia over the next four years, including the delivery of around 3 300 social dwellings as well as refurbishments and maintenance work to thousands more. The new advisory body complements many recent homelessness reforms introduced by the McGowan government, including delivering 100 homes through our Djuripiny Mia supportive landlord program, the acquisition of a Murray Street hotel for transitional accommodation in the Perth CBD, and ongoing work to consolidate multiple outreach services in the city into one. We are committed to tackling the key issue of homelessness in Western Australia, and this advisory group is a critical step in that direction.