

Victorian Homelessness and Housing Reform

Launch Sites - The experience so far.

Lisa Morgan
Gippsland Homelessness Network Coordinator

How we have made it to launch sites

- ▶ Consultation across all areas of the Victorian Community Sector.
- ▶ The Victorian Homelessness and Housing reform announced in September 2015
- ▶ Launch sites were identified mid 2016. **Brimbank/Melton, Hume/Moreland and Inner Gippsland**

The structure

- ▶ **Senior Leadership Group**
 - ▶ Includes senior representatives from each launch sites Specialist Homelessness Services and DHHS, alongside central DHHS Housing and Homelessness representatives and Peak Bodies.
 - ▶ This group has oversight of the policy framework, operational model and outcomes of the launch sites.
- ▶ **Area Implementation Groups**
 - ▶ Established in each launch site in early 2017, with a mandate to oversee local coordination, implementation, testing and evaluation.
 - ▶ AIG is facilitated by DHHS Principal Project Officers with membership including consumer advisors, local SHS, community housing providers and allied community services.
- ▶ **Working Groups**
 - ▶ An opportunity for operational staff and consumers to design and test elements of reform with specific consideration of local attributes

Early signs of positive change

- ▶ Local design and testing
- ▶ Broader service collaboration
- ▶ Flexibility of funds
- ▶ Consumer Advice and Participation
- ▶ Financial Initiatives

What we need to remain focused on

- ▶ End rather than manage homelessness
- ▶ Service users engaged in design
- ▶ Informed by risk and need
- ▶ In line with local circumstances
- ▶ Seek broader stakeholder involvement

Launch site priorities - Hume Moreland

- ▶ Testing 3 different tools
 - ▶ Launch Housing will be using the VI-SPDAT,
 - ▶ Vincent Care will be trialling a locally developed tool and
 - ▶ Haven Home Safe - control group, by continuing with Opening Doors
 - ▶ Single households pathways, prioritisation & brief intervention models

Launch site priorities - Brimbank Melton

- ▶ Focused on the arrival to service experience.
 - ▶ Extending the time allocated to assessment and planning.
 - ▶ Ensuring, a fuller assessment and active assistance for service users to connect to the support they need and prefer.

Launch site priorities - Inner Gippsland

- ▶ Developing screening tools, which can be applied at first contact points across the community sector, identifying need and solutions earlier
- ▶ Developing a warm referral model, to assist in the transition of service users across the sector
- ▶ Private rental sustainability check list
- ▶ Consumer participation with PESP
- ▶ Family Safety Hub - opportunities for synergy

What we anticipate will be different

- ▶ Offering consumer choice in housing
- ▶ A fulsome and consistent approach to assessment, connecting people to the support they need and choose.
- ▶ Flexibility in the way we are able to support people, both in case management and funding.