

WHAT DO WE NEED?

Locally based support and accommodation services for people at risk of or experiencing homelessness in the City of Wanneroo, including:

- Crisis and short-medium term supported accommodation;
- Fully funded, ongoing assertive outreach service that meets level of demand; and
- Wrap-around support services.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

- The City currently has no crisis or short to medium term accommodation facilities accessible for people over 25 years of age experiencing homelessness.
- Current assertive outreach providers are overwhelmed and operating at capacity, with no guarantee of longevity for these vital programs beyond 2026.
- Over the past year alone, the number of reports the City has received of people experiencing homelessness has increased by 170%, equating to approximately 157 unique cases.
- The City has more households with mortgages and a high proportion (33.2%)¹ of households experiencing housing stress compared to WA (28.3%). Rents in the City increased by 35% from 2019 to 2022².
- Service providers are reporting challenges in finding accommodation for people experiencing homelessness due to the lack of housing supply, unaffordable housing, and limited availability of crisis accommodation.

- Service providers are reporting difficulties in accessing wrap-around support services with many at maximum capacity and not taking referrals.
- The WA Government's 10-Year Strategy on Homelessness 'All Paths Lead to a Home' is underpinned by a 'no wrong door' and whole-of-community approach, and stresses place-based responses. Priority actions include supporting measures that ensure people sleeping rough have immediate access to shelter and are connected to appropriate supports. Currently this is not happening in a timely, consistent or optimal way within the City of Wanneroo due to a lack of accessible local homelessness services and accommodation.

HOW CAN WE MAKE IT HAPPEN?

State and/or Federal Government commitment to:

- A fully funded, ongoing assertive outreach service in the City of Wanneroo that meets level of demand;
- Establish, operate, and maintain crisis and short-medium term supported accommodation for people at risk of or experiencing homelessness in the City of Wanneroo; and
- Establish and maintain place-based wrap-around support services for people at risk of or experiencing homelessness in the City of Wanneroo.

¹ABS 2021 Census data

²Bankwest Curtin Economics Centre – Housing Affordability in Western Australia No. 17, May 2023

