

City of Melbourne

Homelessness Framework

2007-2009

Creating sustainable pathways out of homelessness

Endorsed February 2007

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	1
1. Introduction	2
2. Aim of Framework	2
3. Background.....	3
3.1 Definitions and Categories of Homelessness	3
3.2 Who is Homeless?	4
3.3 Summary of Data Analysis.....	5
3.4 Australian Capital City Responses to Homelessness.....	6
3.5 Current City of Melbourne Roles and Responses to Homelessness	8
4. City of Melbourne Homelessness Framework	9
4.1 Council's Vision.....	8
4.2 Principles	8
4.3 Key Themes	9
5. City of Melbourne Strategies and Anticipated Outcomes.....	10
5.1 Supporting People and Place	12
5.2 Utilising Partnerships	12
5.3 Building Participation	13
6. Council Roles.....	13
7. Implementation, Monitoring and Review	13
Attachment A: Data Relevant to the Homelessness Framework and Action Plan.....	14

1. Introduction

The City of Melbourne has a history of involvement in addressing homelessness through a range of mechanisms including the provision and promotion of social and affordable housing; support for homelessness services; research and model development. The City of Melbourne's commitment to addressing homelessness was previously articulated in the *Social Housing Strategy 2001-2004*.

The City of Melbourne has now separated the housing and homelessness elements of the previous *Social Housing Strategy* into two distinct documents for the 2006-2009 period, the *Social and Affordable Housing Framework* and the *Homelessness Framework*. This allows Council to develop different responses to housing and homelessness, whilst acknowledging the critical links between the two complex issues.

The *Homelessness Framework 2007 - 2009* is a companion document to the *Social and Affordable Housing Framework 2006 - 2009* recently adopted by Council. The *Framework* addresses the need for appropriate, affordable and accessible housing which is critical in responding to homelessness in the long term.

2. Aim of the Framework

The aim of the City of Melbourne *Homelessness Framework 2007-2009* is to provide the City of Melbourne with direction for future work and actions in responding to homelessness and related issues over the next three years.

The document is divided into two sections:

1. the background section which presents the key issues; and
2. the *Homelessness Framework*, which documents the principles, vision, themes and strategic priorities in addressing homelessness.

A strategic response to homelessness must take into account the following planning and policy context relating to the City of Melbourne:

- The Victorian Government's planning framework *Melbourne 2030*;
- *The Inner Melbourne Action Plan* and various housing and planning policies;
- *City Plan 2005 - 2009* – Melbourne City Council's primary planning strategy to ensure that the City of Melbourne moves forward as an inclusive and engaging City;
- The City of Melbourne *Municipal Strategic Statement* which along with the *Social and Affordable Housing Framework* provides the framework for ensuring accessible, affordable housing to meet the expected needs of the population, especially those on low incomes or with special needs; and
- The *Inner Regional Housing Statement and Implementation Plan* recently endorsed by the City of Melbourne and inner urban partner Councils, which provides a strategic framework for planning for the present and future housing needs of Inner Melbourne residents.

The City of Melbourne also has a range of strategies for specific target groups (e.g. young people, people with disabilities, older people, families and children) and issues (e.g. public safety, recreation, cultural diversity) that relate to the proposed *Homelessness Framework*. Other relevant documents are the *Draft Inner City Squats Protocol* and the *Victorian Protocol for People who are Homeless in Public Spaces*, the latter recently developed by Department of Human Services and the City of Melbourne in partnership with other agencies.

3. Background

The *City of Melbourne Homelessness Framework Background Paper* was developed to provide supporting information and sets the context for the *Framework*. The research and analysis contained in the paper informed the development of the *Framework*. However, more detailed data collection, including qualitative and quantitative data will be needed to better inform the implementation of the *Framework*.

The key issues, gaps and opportunities identified in the *Background Paper* are specifically addressed in proposals for the *Framework*.

The project methodology used in developing this document included:

- analysis of relevant Council policies and strategies;
- a review of relevant national and international homelessness strategies and responses, including a focus on initiatives by Capital City governments;
- analysis of data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics, the National Data Collection Agency (NDCA) (Supported Accommodation Assistance Program – SAAP data), and City of Melbourne demographic data;
- collection of information about the existing service system within the City of Melbourne;
- discussion of issues, gaps and opportunities with a range of stakeholders through a Consumers’ forum, Homelessness Service Providers’ forum, and a City of Melbourne internal forum;
- discussions with key researchers and service providers in the homelessness and allied service sectors;
- production of the *Homelessness Framework Background Paper* outlining key issues for consideration by Council; and
- development of the draft *Homelessness Framework 2007-2009* for consideration by Council.

This process contributed to the development of the *Homelessness Framework 2007 – 2009* by:

- setting the context internationally, nationally, and locally, within Council’s current activities;
- providing an evidence base for Council’s future activities to address homelessness; and
- gathering the views and opinions of a range of stakeholders on how Council can address homelessness and related issues.

3.1 Definitions and Categories of Homelessness

Definitions of homelessness in the Australian context focus on a lack of social connectedness; social and family supports and networks as well as a lack of “a conventional home” (Council to Homeless Persons, Melbourne 2006). Homelessness is about people rather than merely shelter. Homelessness is often exacerbated by a number of other issues including poor health and/or mental health, disability, drug and alcohol issues, unemployment, low income and financial problems. It is widely accepted that safe, appropriate, affordable and secure housing with appropriate support also contributes to improved health and wellbeing outcomes.

People experiencing homelessness may live in crisis accommodation; hotel/motel/caravan parks; in temporary shelter such as a car or squat; in a rooming house; they may sleep rough; or stay with family or friends for short periods. This is important because staying with family or friends for a short period is one solution but extended indeterminate periods of moving from one place to another is essentially what defines homelessness.

Structural issues such as housing unaffordability and poverty, as well as personal circumstances, contribute to the causes of homelessness in Australia.

Three categories of homelessness were developed to assist in counting the number of people experiencing homelessness in Australia in the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Census (Chamberlain and MacKenzie 1992, in Chamberlain 1999:1). These categories and the above definitions provide a useful objective way of measuring and understanding homelessness. The homelessness categories developed by Chamberlain and Mackenzie are widely used in Australia by academics, researchers and government. However it is noteworthy that people in these categories or those described as homeless using the above definitions may not view themselves as being homeless.

Primary homelessness: people without conventional accommodation such a people living on the streets, sleeping in derelict buildings, or using cars for temporary shelter.

Secondary homelessness: people who move frequently from one form of temporary shelter to another. This category covers people accommodated in homeless services, people residing temporarily with family and friends and those using rooming/boarding houses on an occasional basis.

Tertiary homelessness: People who live in boarding houses on a medium to long term basis. This type of accommodation typically does not have self-contained rooms and residents share bathroom and kitchen facilities. They do not have the security of tenure provided by a lease.

The data collected for this framework includes the three categories above plus an additional category using data from the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP). The fifth category of caravan parks is not directly relevant to Melbourne but is included as it forms part of the comparative data for comparing figures for City of Melbourne to Victorian as a whole.

- Category1. Improvised Dwellings, Sleepers out (primary);
- Category2. Friends and relatives (secondary);
- Category3. Boarding/rooming houses (tertiary);
- Category4. SAAP Accommodation
- Category5. Marginal residents of caravan parks (not applicable in the city of Melbourne)

3.2 Who is Homeless?

Homelessness affects people from all sections of the community. Whether it lasts for a very short time, or lasts for a number of months or years, it is important to understand that being without safe, secure and affordable accommodation can have a devastating affect on that person's life, and their life opportunities.

The City of Melbourne recognises that people experiencing homelessness require different responses, depending on their individual circumstances. All of the following population groups have been considered in developing this framework:

- Indigenous people;
- Families with children;
- Young people, including young women who are pregnant and/or parenting;
- Young adults (18-24);
- Single men and women, and couples (25+);
- Older people;
- Women and children experiencing family violence;
- People from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, including refugees and asylum seekers;
- People with high and complex needs (including poor health, mental illness, acquired brain injury, substance abuse problems, physical or intellectual disability); and

-
- People leaving institutions (such as young people leaving care or juvenile justice, adults leaving corrections facilities, mental health institutions, or detention facilities).

Among these diverse populations there is a wide range of support needs, and not all people experiencing homelessness are able or willing to become clients of the formal homelessness service system. The City of Melbourne *Homelessness Framework* is designed to be inclusive, not exclusive, of all people experiencing homelessness with a focus on helping provide sustainable pathways out of homelessness.

3.3 Summary of Data Analysis

The best current data to provide a picture of homelessness are derived from a summary of the ABS 2001 Homelessness Census data for the City of Melbourne and the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) usage data for 2004-05. Key figures illustrating the data are provided in Attachment A.

- On census night in 2001, there were 23,713 people recorded as being homeless in Victoria, with 981 people recorded as being homeless within the City of Melbourne boundaries, representing 4% of Victoria's homeless population;
- 5,043 total support periods were provided by SAAP services across the City of Melbourne in 2004/05 representing 14% of all SAAP services provided across Victoria in 2004/05 (35,850);
- Both the ABS and SAAP data collections show that the City of Melbourne's profile is of a young homeless population with 56% and 58% (respectively) of records for people aged between 15 and 34;
- SAAP services in the City of Melbourne were provided to people from a range of culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, with 41% of SAAP support periods in the City of Melbourne provided to people identifying as other than Anglo-Australian;
- 80% of people counted as homeless in the 2001 Census were living in the outer ring of City of Melbourne suburbs (Melbourne – Remainder SLA Carlton/Parkville; North/West Melbourne and Kensington);
- 82% of SAAP support periods provided in the City of Melbourne were provided to people who had been located outside of Inner Melbourne prior to becoming homeless, with the majority (28%) coming from the Western suburbs Melbourne; and reflecting in part the co – location of many homeless support services in the heart of the City;
- 55% of people counted as homeless in the City of Melbourne in the 2001 Census were living in boarding/rooming houses.

While research shows that one in five people in the Australian community suffer a significant mental disorder, people experiencing homelessness are believed to have a much higher incidence of mental health issues and problems. There is limited research which directly considers the links between homelessness and mental health. However, it is estimated that up to 75 per cent of people who are homeless have some form of mental health issue (Council to Homeless Persons, submission to the Senate Select Committee on Mental Health, May 2005). Mental health can be a causal factor of homelessness, but it can also be exacerbated by the stresses and difficulties of homelessness.

In summary, the available data show that the City of Melbourne's homeless population is generally young, primarily living in rooming houses in the outer ring of the City's suburbs (Carlton/Parkville, Kensington; North/West Melbourne) and with only about one-fifth engaged with SAAP services. A high proportion of people experiencing homelessness in the City of Melbourne (41% of SAAP service users) identify as being from cultural and linguistically diverse backgrounds, (CALD) backgrounds and they are also likely to originally be from another part of metropolitan Melbourne before becoming homeless.

Further data collation and analysis will be undertaken when the 2006 Census data becomes available in the first half of 2007.

3.4 Australian Capital City Responses to Homelessness

In developing the *Homelessness Framework*, a range of national, international, state and local government responses to homelessness were reviewed. In particular, the review focussed on how other Australian Capital Cities are responding to homelessness. Below is a brief summary of the key Australian Capital City responses to homelessness developed by Brisbane, Sydney and Adelaide City councils. The Council of Capital City Lord Mayors has identified an interest in addressing homelessness as a priority. The Council has a stated collective commitment to work with other levels of government and the community in addressing homelessness taking into account the needs of Capital City stakeholders.

Brisbane City Council has developed *A Place for Everyone – Brisbane City Council’s Strategy to Reduce Homelessness 2005-08*, to follow on from its previous *Response to Homelessness Strategy 2002-06*.

The overall aims of the Brisbane’s Homelessness Strategy were to:

- improve access and support options for Brisbane's homeless people;
- improve safety and facilities in public spaces;
- promote greater awareness of homelessness; and
- work with community, government and business groups to develop a comprehensive response to homelessness.

The first Brisbane strategy included a number of key initiatives, many of which have been implemented. The 2005-2008 strategy has developed a new range of initiatives to build on previous achievements.

The City of Sydney has been a national leader among local governments in providing assistance to homeless people, with over 20 years continuous support of the Homeless Persons Information Centre (HPIC). The City of Sydney:

- developed the *City of Sydney Homelessness Strategy 2005–2008*;
- manages and directly provides for the HPIC, a statewide telephone information and referral service receiving over 40,000 calls for assistance annually, operating until 10pm, 7 days a week;
- funds the Homeless Brokerage Program, operating until 10pm, 7 days a week, to purchase temporary accommodation and provide support to homeless people and the Street Outreach Service for people who are homeless;
- has developed a food van protocol;
- established a Street Drinking Taskforce; and
- took a coordinating role in the provision of services to people who are homeless and a research role in developing better understanding of HPIC usage patterns and pathways out of homelessness for very vulnerable people with complex needs.

Since 2000, Adelaide City Council has developed its response to homelessness under the framework of a formal Partnership Agreement with the South Australian Government which has five key strategic action areas:

- improving client outcomes/client focused service delivery;
- increasing accommodation and housing options to suit client needs;
- working together to improve service coordination, capacity and communication;
- increasing opportunities to contribute to the social inclusivity of the inner city; and
- increasing opportunities for client access and participation.

Programs implemented by Adelaide City Council in relation to homelessness include:

- vulnerable adult program (predominantly for Indigenous clients) – now run by the “Street 2 Home” initiative and receiving funding from all levels of government;
- public awareness and education activities;
- South West Corner Neighbourhood Development project, promoting greater social cohesion between residents, a high concentration of social services and homeless people;
- Community Development Grants for agencies responding to issues of poverty, disadvantage and social isolation in the city; and
- Support for homeless agency coordination and the Central Youth Action Network.

The various Capital City strategies demonstrate strong Council commitments to addressing homelessness and the use of a multi-faceted partnership approaches with State Governments, community services and other stakeholders in reducing homelessness in Australian Capital Cities.

In addition, Haggerty and the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI) have each developed principles to guide the development of best practice strategic responses to addressing homelessness in the Australian context (Haggerty, 2005, *Ending Homelessness in South Australia* and Greenhalgh *et al*, 2004, *Recent International and National Approaches to Homelessness*, AHURI).

3.5 Current City of Melbourne Roles and Responses to Homelessness

Table 1 summarises the City of Melbourne’s current response to homelessness and Council’s roles in relation to homelessness.

TABLE 1

Council Roles	Examples of Council Responses
1. Research and feasibility studies of new service, support and housing models and undertaking and/or supporting demonstration projects	Café Meals Program, Lion Garden Youth Transitions Program, Community Hotel Model development, EdCare, CBD Complex Needs Study all undertaken through Community Services Group.
2. Assistance and Funding for the Homelessness Support Services Sector	Service funding provided through Community Services includes Frontyard Youth Services, Travellers Aid, Living Room, Indigenous Open Space Officer, and Lion Garden. Grants programs – <i>Community Grants Scheme</i> to community groups to strengthen and support marginalised people within the local community, <i>City Safety Grants Scheme</i> – supports community groups and organisations to undertake initiatives which are often linked to homelessness. <i>Arts and Culture Grants</i> , available to homelessness and other services are provided through Arts and Culture Branch.
3. Advocacy to other levels of government and the community and private sectors to improve responses to homelessness.	Commonwealth Games Homelessness Protocol, place management/neighbourhood strategies undertaken by Community Services Group and Place Management program.
4. Raising Community Awareness and Information Provision	Projects undertaken by Community Services Group include ‘Helping Out’ Booklet, Place Management’s NW Melbourne Neighbourhood project, networks and forums for ongoing dialogue between different sectors – e.g. Council to Homeless Persons /other Forums support homelessness and related publications, seminars and forums, eg. Sponsor one edition of <i>Parity</i> magazine annually.
5. Initiating, Developing and Maintaining Strategic Partnerships (both internal and external).	NW Melbourne Neighbourhood project (undertaken by Community Services Group and Place Management Program), Squats Protocol, Commonwealth Games Homelessness Protocol, coordinating CBD Police and Service Provider meetings bi-monthly; undertaken by Community Services

	Group.
6. Related work on the Social and Affordable Housing strategy and initiatives.	Support for development of Melbourne Affordable Housing; Facilitation and fostering of social housing development opportunities i.e. Lion Garden, Ebsworth House; Guildford Lane; Negotiation and advocacy for retention and expansion of social housing in redevelopments at Carlton and Kensington; Research, Advocacy, and model development for different types of accommodation i.e. Community Hotel Model; Discussions and advocacy regarding social housing projects at Docklands, and Commonwealth Games Village; Inclusion of Social and Affordable housing objectives in community and structure plans; undertaken by Community Services Group.
7. Consumer Forums and Meetings	A series of informal consumer meetings, discussions and forums have been held over the past year with people who have experienced homelessness; facilitated by the Community Services Group for Cr Wilson.

4. City of Melbourne Homelessness Framework

The *Framework* builds on Council's previous work on homelessness under the *Social Housing Strategy 2001-2004* and complements the *Social and Affordable Housing Framework 2006-2009* recently adopted by Council. The *Homelessness Framework* and the accompanying Action Plan have been developed with reference to homelessness strategies and frameworks from elsewhere in Australia and overseas, with a particular focus on Capital City approaches to homelessness.

In addition, the implementation of the action plans for the City of Melbourne *Homelessness Framework* will include a coordinated partnership approach with the Victorian Government's *Homelessness Strategy* within the broader context of the Commonwealth Government's *National Homelessness Strategy*.

4.1 Council's Vision

Melbourne City Council has an active role in responding to the needs of people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. We are committed to building sustainable pathways out of homelessness by supporting individuals, developing robust collaborative partnerships and building strong and inclusive communities.

4.2 Principles

The principles which form the basis of the *Homelessness Framework* are covered under four key aspects of Council's role in responding to homelessness.

4.2.1 Council Responsibility

- A whole of Council approach will be adopted in responding to homelessness;
- Council will take a leadership and coordination role in responding to homelessness issues; and
- Council will collaborate internally across the organisation and externally with homelessness support services, homeless consumers, community organisations, other levels of government, the broader community and business to better meet its responsibility.

4.2.2 Capital City

- Council recognises that people will be attracted to the Capital City and that appropriate responses to homelessness should be provided in the City; and
- Council supports the concept of a Capital City that is open twenty four hours a day, seven days a week including the availability of homelessness responses.

4.2.3 Rights-Based Approach

- Council uses a human-rights based approach when responding to people experiencing homelessness an approach which:
 - is empowering;
 - is respectful of people's rights and treats all people with dignity;
 - encourages participation;
 - is inclusive; and
 - builds on people's strengths and knowledge of their own lives.
- Council services and facilities are inclusive of all citizens, regardless of their socio-economic, age, culture, health and/or housing status; and
- Council aims to reduce discrimination against people experiencing homelessness in the municipality.

4.2.4 Responding to Diversity

- Council recognises that people experiencing homelessness are diverse, in terms of age, culture, religion, ability, gender, sexual preference, health status, and require different responses to meet their needs;
- Council responds to all categories of homelessness (i.e. primary, secondary and tertiary), including people at risk of homelessness in the municipality; and
- Council values early intervention approaches to homelessness; support services for people experiencing homelessness; and responses that build sustainable pathways out of homelessness.

4.3 Key Themes

The City of Melbourne is committed to working strategically under a broad *Framework* designed to achieve the aim of responding to and supporting people without a home. Strategies in the *Framework* are organised under three key themes:

- People and Place;
- Partnerships; and
- Participation.

4.3.1 People and Place

Council's work will be evidence based, assessing needs; identifying gaps and developing appropriate models for action.

Strategy

Council will strengthen the information provision and service responses to homeless and vulnerable people in the City and develop integrated place-based responses to specific needs and locational issues.

4.3.2 Partnerships

Council will work in partnership with a range of key stakeholders to ensure that the outcomes achieved are grounded and connected within the context of the local community, other levels of Government, business and local traders, service providers and homeless people.

Strategy

Council will build and strengthen robust collaborative partnerships which facilitate an improved response to homelessness in the City.

Partnerships may be with:

- homeless consumers;
- service providers;
- other levels of government;
- business;
- residents;
- churches and community organisations;
- other services; and/or
- a combination of the above.

Current and potential partners who are critical to improving outcomes include:

- State Government – Central and Regional Offices, Department of Human Services, Department for Victorian Communities;
- Other local governments, including inner Melbourne local governments dealing with similar homelessness and related issues and other Australian Capital City governments;
- Business, including local traders, corporate groups, philanthropic trusts, Committee for Melbourne, etc;
- Homelessness service providers;
- Other emergency and health and wellbeing service providers, including Metropolitan Ambulance Service; the Metropolitan Fire Brigade; Victoria Police, city hospitals, health and community service organisations;
- Internal Branches across different Divisions of Council and;
- Churches, community organisations, residents, workers, people who work in and/or visit the city.

4.3.3 Participation

Council is committed to achieving an inclusive and engaging, diverse sustainable community which ensures that everyone has the opportunity to participate in community life.

Strategy

Council will develop inclusive and empowering participatory structures to gain the views and advice of people experiencing homelessness and ensure that Council activities and facilities are inclusive of homeless and vulnerable people.

5. City of Melbourne Strategies and Anticipated Outcomes

The State and Federal Governments fund crisis and transitional support and accommodation through the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) and Transitional Housing Management (THM) programs (secondary homelessness). Council will focus its efforts on supporting people who are sleeping rough as well as people living in boarding/rooming houses in the City of Melbourne (i.e. primary and tertiary homelessness). By focussing on these two groups, Council will minimise duplication with other levels of government. Council will also be focussing on the people with the most complex needs as well as increasing the stability of those at risk of chronic homelessness. The overall orientation of the *Homelessness Framework* strategies and outcomes is to contribute to the creation of sustainable pathways out of homelessness.

The key Strategies identified below provide a focus for the City of Melbourne's response to homelessness, particularly in the early years of the implementation of this *Framework*. However, Council needs to ensure the implementation of the range of actions identified in a related Action Plan over the period 2007-2009.

A critical element of implementation is the appointment of a permanent City of Melbourne Housing and Homelessness Officer to oversee the *Framework* and the associated actions.

5.1 Supporting People and Place

Strategy A1

Strengthen information provision and service responses to homeless and vulnerable people in the City of Melbourne.

Anticipated Outcome:

Provision of more appropriate, effective, coordinated and timely support and information services will lead to improved pathways out of homelessness.

Focus of Actions:

- Needs Assessment, Gaps and Model Development;
- Support for Services; and
- Information Provision.

Strategy A2

Develop integrated place-based responses to specific neighbourhood needs and locational issues.

Anticipated Outcome:

Improved understanding of homelessness at the neighbourhood level by all stakeholders including people experiencing homelessness, service providers, traders and residents will ensure better integration of the needs of people experiencing homelessness into neighbourhood-based planning.

Focus of Actions:

- Integrated Place-Based Responses.

Strategy A3

Research issues related to the provision of rooming houses and the health and support needs of rooming house residents in the City of Melbourne and advocate for those needs to be met.

Anticipated Outcome:

Improved housing, health and support will improve the wellbeing of people living in rooming houses.

Focus of Actions:

- Rooming House Residents.

5.2 Utilising Partnerships

Strategy B1

Build and strengthen robust collaborative partnerships with a range of significant stakeholders to facilitate an effective response to homelessness in the City.

Anticipated Outcomes:

More effective coordinated government and service responses to homelessness in the City will improve outcomes for homeless people.

Improved understanding of good practice in the development and delivery of responses will assist people experiencing homelessness.

Improved community and service awareness of homelessness and related issues will increase understanding of issues underlying homelessness.

Council is recognised as a leader among Australian local governments in addressing homelessness and ensure Council has effective ability to advocate to improve outcomes for homeless people and the community as a whole.

Focus of Actions

- Partnerships with other levels of Government;
- Partnerships with Support Services;
- Other Partnerships.

5.3 Building Participation

Strategy C1

Develop inclusive and empowering participatory mechanisms for people who have experienced/or who are experiencing homelessness to contribute to Council decision-making processes related to homelessness.

Anticipated Outcomes:

Inclusive and participatory Council decision-making processes will result in decisions which accurately reflect the needs of consumers.

The development and implementation of best practice consumer participation mechanisms in the homelessness field ensure that Council is recognised as a leader in inclusive and participatory decision-making processes.

Focus of Actions

- Consumer Participation; and
- Accessibility and Inclusiveness.

6. Council Roles

Melbourne City Council's response to the issue of Homelessness has previously been included in the *Social Housing Strategy*. The approach taken in the newly developed draft *Homelessness Framework* includes five key roles:

1. Research and Planning, including feasibility studies of new service, support and housing models and undertaking and/or supporting demonstration projects;
2. Assistance and Funding (Support) for the Homelessness Support Services Sector;
3. Advocacy to other levels of government and the community and private sectors to improve responses to homelessness;
4. Raising Community Awareness and Information Provision; and
5. Initiating, developing and maintaining both internal and external Strategic Partnerships (Coordination).

7. Implementation, Monitoring and Review

The City of Melbourne Community Services Group has primary responsibility for implementing the *Homelessness Framework*. A range of other areas across Council are responsible for implementing particular actions, including:

- Parks and Recreation;
- Arts and Culture;
- Facilities Management;
- Customer Relations and Place Management;
- Parking and Traffic;
- Street Activities;
- Marketing and Retail Development; and
- Sustainable Regulatory Services

The implementation of the *Homelessness Framework* is subject to the Council's annual budget and business planning processes. Implementation of specific actions will be underpinned by evidence-based research using the processes of Council's *Social Planning Framework* to ensure a consistent approach to identify the needs of specific groups and local areas.

Coordination of the implementation of the City of Melbourne's *Homelessness Framework 2007 - 2009* should be the responsibility of the designated specialist Housing and Homelessness Officer position within the Community Services Group. This position would also coordinate Council's ongoing response to addressing homelessness.

Community Services will evaluate the implementation and outcomes of the *Framework* through annual reviews and reports to Council. This work will contribute to the development of Council's continued response to homelessness and related issues in the City of Melbourne.

Figure 1. City of Melbourne Statistical Local Areas and Boundary Map

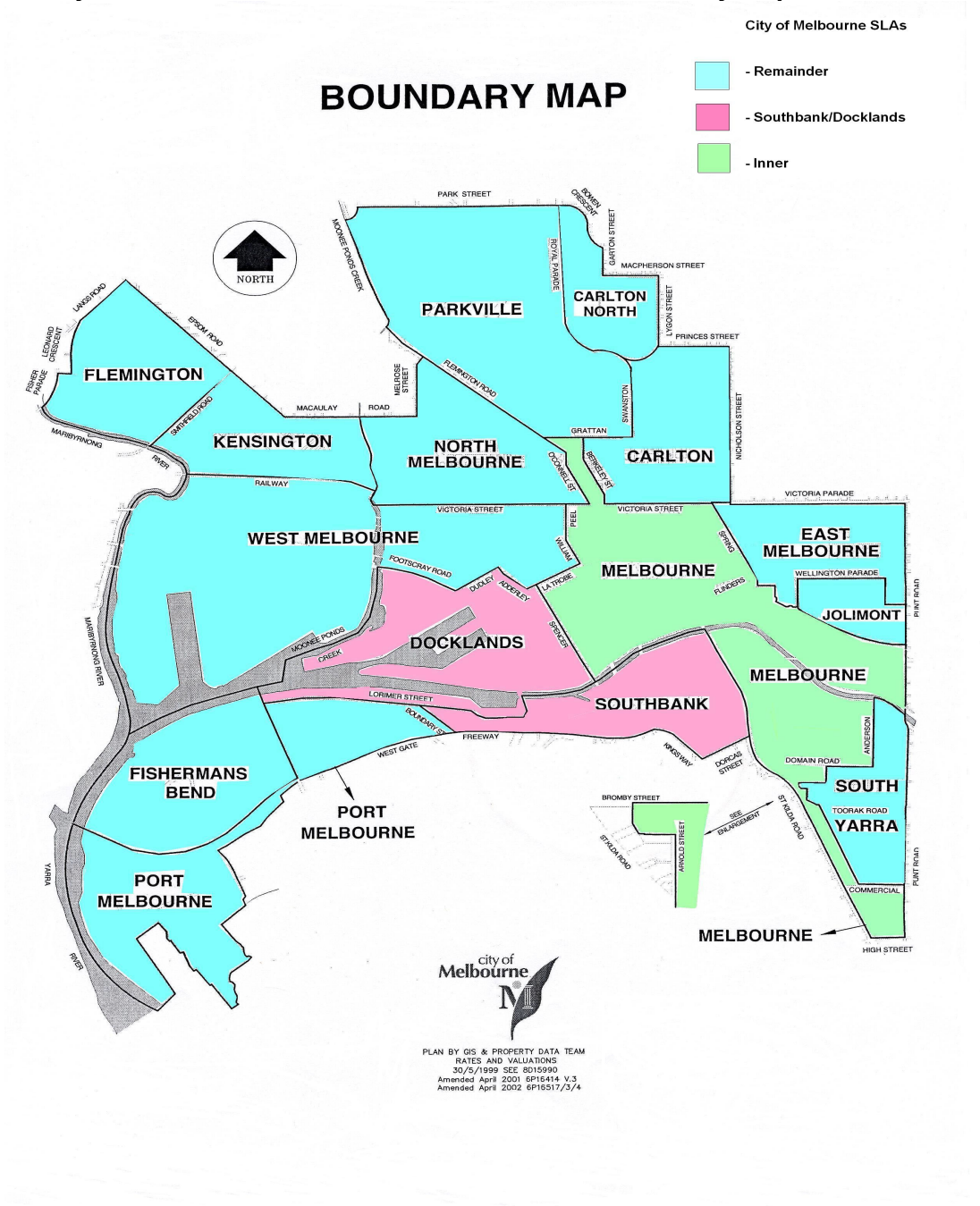


Figure 2. SAAP Support Periods by Age, 2004/05

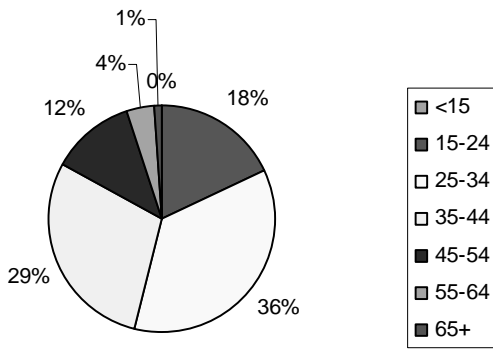


Figure 3. ABS Census Age of Homeless Population, 2001

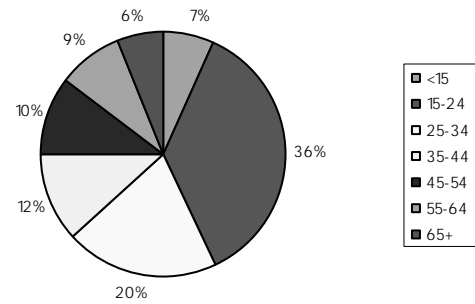


Figure 4. SAAP Support Periods by Age for Victoria and City of Melbourne 2004/05

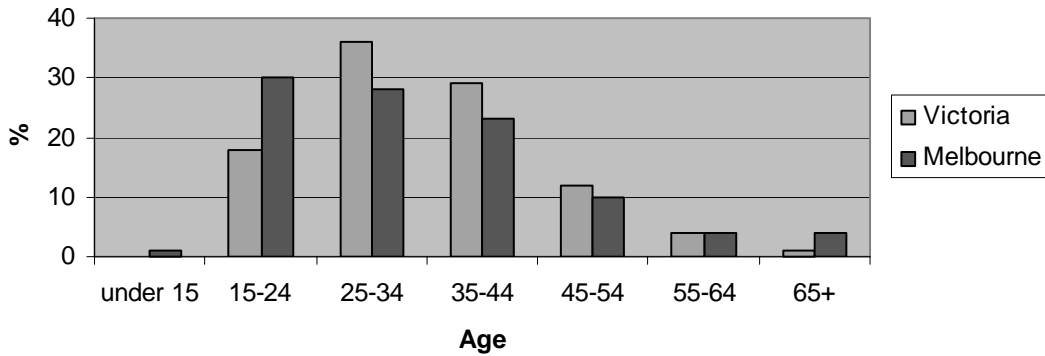


Figure 5. SAAP Support Periods for City of Melbourne - Client Location Before Current Homelessness 2004/05

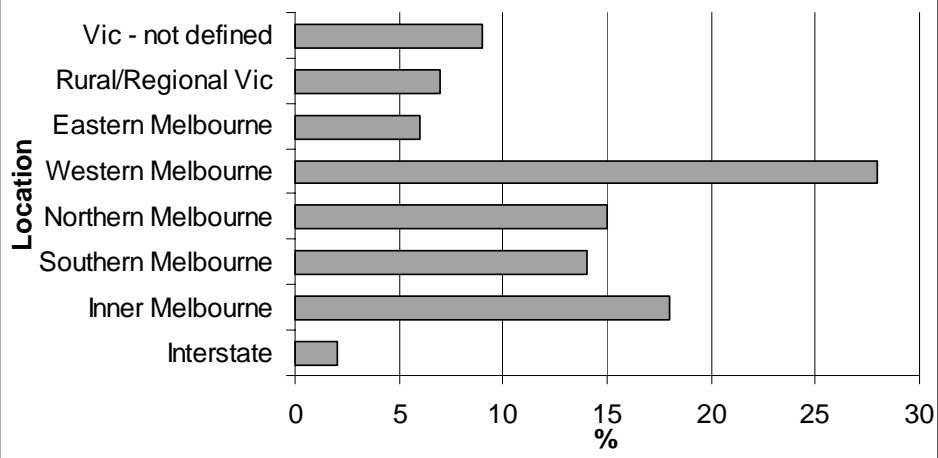


Table 1. Country/Region of Birth of SAAP Clients in City of Melbourne and Victoria, 2004/05 %

Country	Melb.	Victoria
Australia	67	83
Pacific (incl. NZ)	3	2
Asia	10	4
UK	1	1
Europe	6	4
Africa	4	} 5
Middle East	6	
N/S America	2	

Table 2. Cultural Identity of SAAP Clients in City of Melbourne 2004/05

Cultural Identity	%
Anglo Australian	59
Vietnamese	3
Aboriginal	3
Turkish	3
Chinese	3
African	2
Lebanese	2
Russian	1
Greek	1
Italian	1
Macedonian	1
English	1
New Zealander	1
Other	19

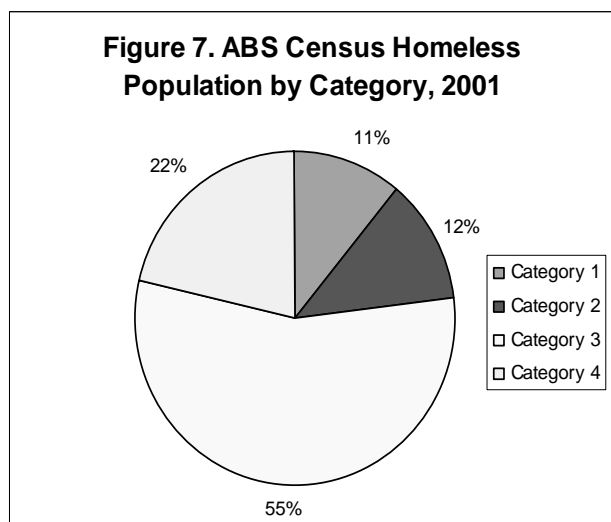
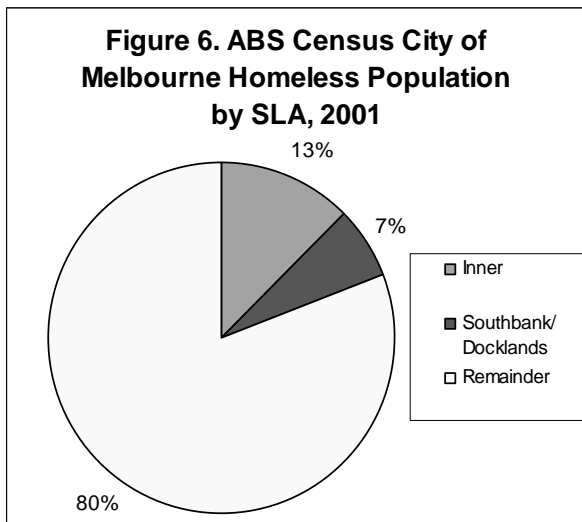


Figure 7 & 8 ABS Census Categories See Below

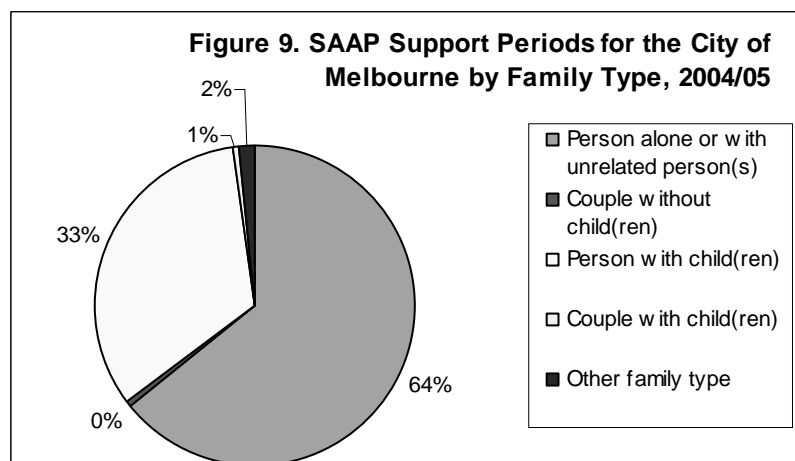
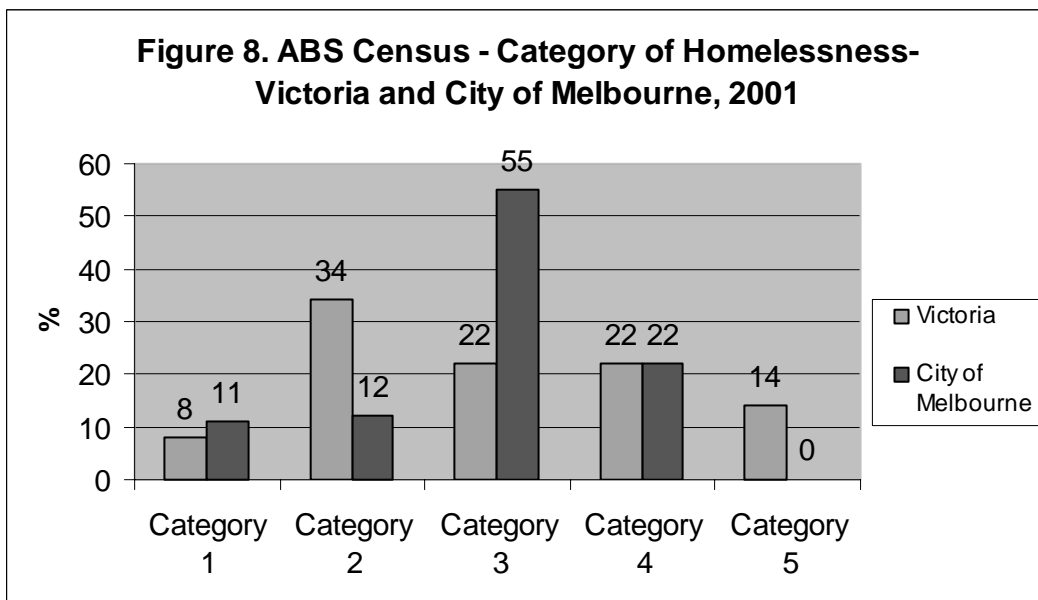


Figure 7 & 8 Census Categories

Category 1. Improvised Dwellings, Sleepers out (primary); Category 2. Friends and relatives (secondary); Category 3. Boarding/rooming houses (tertiary); Category 4. SAAP Accommodation
 Category 5. Marginal residents of caravan parks (not applicable in the city of Melbourne)

REFERENCES

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