

Adelaide Zero Project – Partnership Opportunity

Tuesday, 9 August 2022
Council

Strategic Alignment - Thriving Communities

Public

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Adelaide has been a major partner of the Adelaide Zero Project (AZP) since its inception in 2018 and is committed through its Strategic Plan to continue to support the project to achieve functional zero homelessness in the city. The current formal partnership ends in November 2022.

This report provides opportunity for Council to consider its continued partnership with the AZP. A proposal has been tabled by the South Australian Alliance to End Homelessness (SAAEH) to secure ongoing resourcing and continuity in project delivery, for the next 3 years.

The AZP is currently seeking support from the SA Housing Authority and other local councils, and has received a resource contribution from the Toward Home Alliance.

This report recommends continuing the partnership until end of June 2024 to align to the end of Council's current Strategic Plan.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL

1. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer, to extend the current partnership with the Australian Alliance to End Homelessness until June 2024 to the value of \$335,301 for the backbone coordination of the Adelaide Zero Project (AZP), subject to further commitment from the State Government to the South Australian Alliance to End Homelessness.
 2. Notes that a budget impact of \$127,301 will need to be considered at the 2022/23 Quarter 1 budget review.
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IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2020-2024 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment – Thriving Communities Action 1.3: Continue support for the Adelaide Zero Project and other initiatives to achieve functional zero homelessness
Policy	The Homelessness, Social and Housing Affordability Policy, adopted in May 2022 identifies Council's role as an Advocate and Facilitator of responses to homelessness in the city: <i>Facilitate improved governance of the homelessness sector with the aim of achieving functional zero homelessness, through participation in the Adelaide Zero Project and other initiatives, including in-kind support and/or grant funding as appropriate.</i>
Consultation	Not as a result of this report
Resource	Not as a result of this report
Risk / Legal / Legislative	Not as a result of this report
Opportunities	Maintaining a formal partnership with the Adelaide Zero Project allows for opportunities for the City of Adelaide to build stakeholder relationships in the homelessness sector and provide localised advice to service providers and the community on responses to rough sleeping in the city.
22/23 Budget Allocation	Nil – 22/23 proportion of current agreement paid in 21/22.
Proposed 23/24 Budget Allocation	\$208,000
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	The South Australian Alliance to End Homelessness is seeking a three-year agreement. This report proposes to extend the agreement to end on June 2024 to align to the end of the Council's current Strategic Plan 2020-2024.
22/23 Budget Reconsideration (if applicable)	Due to no funding being allocated, the budget impact of \$127,301 will need to be considered at the 2022/2023 Quarter 1 Review.
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	Not as a result of this report
Other Funding Sources	The Adelaide Zero Project is currently finalising a funding arrangement with the SA Housing Authority for their contribution to the project, has secured a 1.0 FTE commitment from the Toward Home Alliance and is currently in discussion with other local councils.

DISCUSSION

Adelaide Zero Project

1. The City of Adelaide has been a major partner of the Adelaide Zero Project since its inception in 2018 and a leader across local government in efforts to collaborate with State Government and non-government agencies to coordinate responses to people sleeping rough in the city.
2. In 2018, the City of Adelaide entered a Strategic Partnership with the Don Dunstan Foundation to provide backbone support for the Adelaide Zero Project for three years. This partnership was continued in 2021 with the Australian Alliance to End Homelessness, which now acts as the backbone for the Adelaide Zero Project. This partnership expires in November 2022.
3. Since re-establishing as a backbone under the Australian Alliance to End Homelessness at the beginning of 2022, the Adelaide Zero Project has achieved the following outcomes:
 - 3.1. Established the South Australian Alliance to End Homelessness (SAAEH) to progress the implementation of Advance to Zero Projects in other council areas.
 - 3.2. A renewed focus and additional effort towards By Name List data that resulted in a return to quality data since the establishment of the Homelessness Alliances.
 - 3.3. Utilising the new Alliance structure to integrate the Advance to Zero methodology into other regions.
 - 3.4. A renewed commitment to the Institute of Global Homelessness with the previous Premier, Minister for Human Services, Lord Mayor and SAAEH signing a Vanguard State Agreement.
4. After securing ongoing funding, the focus going forward for the Adelaide Zero Project is to utilise the quality By Name List evidence to improve system integration and case management across sectors and government departments. This integration is a vital piece of work to be able to respond quickly and appropriately to the expected increase in people experiencing homelessness due to the rising cost of living.
5. The South Australian Alliance to End Homelessness is pursuing strong interest from the LGA and a number of other Councils to establish Advance to Zero projects in their communities. The LGA is currently supporting the SAAEH and the local government sector to identify tangible and appropriate resourcing that local government can provide to address homelessness within communities. This can include other Councils taking on coordination roles with their local services, as City of Adelaide has done for many years.

Current Strategic Context

6. The City of Adelaide has a strategic commitment to support the efforts towards Functional Zero homelessness through the Strategic Plan and Homelessness, Social and Housing Affordability Policy.
7. In addition, greater attention and commitment has emerged across the local government sector, both in South Australia and nationally to establish a clear role for councils to contribute their local efforts to end homelessness. Recent activity at a local government level include:
 - 7.1. A successful GAROC Motion in April 2022 that sought to formalise a role that local councils could play in addressing homelessness. The motion requested that the Ordinary General Meeting requests the LGA to:
 - 7.1.1. Support and actively advocate for the provision of lockers in appropriate locations across all South Australian Local Government areas. Lockers to be made available via participating charity services, issued to people living rough or experiencing homelessness to store their belongings in a safe and dignified way;
 - 7.1.2. Ensure support for people experiencing these issues is collectively encouraged across the entire Local Government sector in South Australia on an ongoing basis, and request the LGA be represented within the current Governance structure of the SA Alliance to End Homelessness; and
 - 7.1.3. Support the formation and work of the SA Alliance to End Homelessness, including by committing to the principles contained in the Memorandum of Understanding by signing the MOU between the Institute of Global Homelessness and South Australian stakeholders (including the State Government).
 - 7.2. A large number of motions at the ALGA General Assembly in June 2022 that relate to housing and homelessness across urban and regional areas nationally.
 - 7.3. A recent forum in July 2022 for Council Members and Council executives hosted by the LGA.

- 7.4. Increased connection and collaboration between Homelessness Alliances, the SAAEH and other metropolitan Councils.

Future Adelaide Zero Project Request

8. The South Australian Alliance to End Homelessness (SAAEH) has written to administration seeking to continue our Strategic Partnership beyond its current expiry date of 22 November 2022.
9. To secure ongoing resourcing and continuity in project delivery, the SAAEH have requested Council enter into a 3 year partnership. A longer term partnership will allow for better recruiting, strategic planning and delivery planning for the Adelaide Zero Project and also sits alongside the State Government's Strategic Plan commitment to achieve functional zero homelessness across the state by 2025.
10. The request, as outlined in the letter from the SAAEH (Link 1 view [here](#)), is as follows:

	22/23	23/24	24/25	Total
Project Lead - 0.5FTE L6	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$62,400	\$182,400
Cash	\$140,000	\$140,000	\$145,600	\$425,600
CPI 4%	0	\$8,000	\$8,320	\$16,320
	\$200,000	\$208,000	\$216,320	\$624,320

11. In addition to seeking multi-year funding from Council, the AAEH has also written to the Hon Nat Cook MP, Minister for Human Services, requesting ongoing funding from the State Government to assist with expanding the functional zero methodology to other communities in the State. With this funding commitment, the AAEH will work with other local governments, and other Homelessness Alliances to establish projects that meet their community needs.
12. If supported by Council and the State Government, the funding structure of the South Australian Alliance to end Homelessness is as outlined in the below table:

Partner	Funding Commitment	Number of years	Purpose
State Government	Currently under discussion	Currently under discussion	To support the ongoing delivery of the Adelaide Zero Project while establishing similar projects in other South Australian communities.
City of Adelaide	\$408,000 2022/2023 - \$127,301.37 (\$200,000 minus \$72,698.63 from existing agreement ending in November 2022) 2023/2024 - \$208,000.	2 years	To support the backbone of the Adelaide Zero Project, maintain the focus on the inner city and continue housing outcomes for people on the By-Name-List. Funding will be used to employ a Local Community Lead, maintain quality By Name List data, and projects funds for delivery.
Toward Home Alliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 FTE In kind FTE for administration of the By Name List 	Ongoing, in line with THA funding	Provides a Community Project lead role that is 0.5FTE to the AZP backbone and 0.5FTE to work with

			other councils to replicate the AZP methodology in these communities.
Other potential Councils (currently in discussion with SAAEH)	Currently under discussion	Currently under discussion	Other Councils may contribute resources in the same way CoA does for project coordination in their local areas.

Review of Request

13. The Adelaide Zero Project provides the following outcomes for the City of Adelaide:
 - 13.1. Continue coordinated responses and service delivery to prioritise people who are sleeping rough in the city.
 - 13.2. Continue to provide a mechanism for SAHA to provide 20 properties/month directly to rough sleepers on the By Name List, leading to outcomes for people sleeping rough in the city.
 - 13.3. Continue to refer the most complex rough sleepers to the Housing for Health program, a coordinated housing and support program between SAHA and SA Health.
 - 13.4. Utilising the data from the By Name List to understand the drivers that bring people from the regions into the city when experiencing homelessness. This can be used to advocate for opportunities for prevention to the Toward Home Alliance and State Government.
14. The table below details each component of the partnership arrangement, including a recommendation on Council's continued contribution. The recommendation is based on a review of the current strategic context outlined in this report.

AZP Proposal	Previous CoA commitment to AZP	Recommendation
1. Cash toward Project Lead – 0.5 FTE Level 6.	Feb 2018 – 31 Dec 2020 - 0.6 FTE at level 6 seconded to the Don Dunstan Foundation to work on the Inner City Community of Practice and other project areas. This arrangement ended 31 December 2020. Nov 21-Nov 22 - 0.4 FTE at level 5 as Adelaide Project Lead for the AZP.	Support \$90,458 towards a 0.5 FTE, Level 6 until end of June 2024. Providing funding rather than secondment will allow for the SAAEH to employ a Project lead and maintain continuity over the partnership period.
2. Financial support totalling \$425,000 over 3 years.	2018-2021 - \$60,000/annum. Plus \$200,000 towards the findings of the Institute of Global Homelessness report by Dame Louise Casey. Nov 21-Nov 22 - \$140,000	\$244,843 over 2 years ending June 2024, to align with end of current Council Strategic Plan. This amount also reflects that the existing partnership agreement extends into 22/23 financial year until 22 November 2023.
3. Commitment for a CoA representative on the South Australian Alliance to End Homelessness Council	As a partner CoA has always been represented on the AZP Steering Group, which has expanded to become the South Australian Alliance to End Homelessness Council	Continue to support.
4. Commitment for an appropriate and knowledgeable staff member from the CoA to co-Chair the Inner City Community of Practice to retain the focus on the inner city.	CoA has provided this resource (currently the Team Leader, Social Planning and Reconciliation).	Continue to support.

15. Continued support for the Adelaide Zero Project will ensure that the City of Adelaide remains a leader in coordinating homelessness responses, especially when other communities are considering their approaches both within SA and nationally.

DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Link 1 – Request from South Australian Alliance to End Homelessness

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

- END OF REPORT -