Australian Homelessness Vulnerability Triage Tool (AHVTT)

Youth

Version 1.4

Queensland Only



advance to zero

local communities ending homelessness

The Australian Homelessness Vulnerability Triage Tool (AHVTT) was developed through a process of feedback and consultation that took place both through survey form, in person discussion and virtual discussions.

The AHVTT should be used in the context of Advance to Zero (AtoZ), a national initiative of the Australian Alliance to End Homelessness (AAEH) that supports local collaborative efforts to end homelessness. To learn more, visit: aaeh.org.au/atoz

Front line services, First Nations representatives and people with lived experience provided crucial feedback to ensure that this tool will be a good representation of a person's presenting experience of homelessness and their immediate needs.

The tool, based on people's disclosed information, assists in prioritising the most vulnerable and to rapidly resolve crises. This tool is further used to provide appropriate housing, healthcare and community services to individuals and families according to their current circumstances.

Organisations also use the collective, de-identified data to advocate for the change and resources needed to end homelessness in our communities, based on the needs of the people who experience homelessness and housing stress in the community.

The AHVTT was developed by the Australian Alliance to End Homelessness (AAEH) and partners. The AAEH would particularly like to thank OrgCode Consulting and Micah Projects for their support in its development.







Brisbane Zero Consent Form

The Zero Communities in Queensland refers to the collective of organisations partnering together for the purpose of understanding the needs and preferences of individuals, families and youth experiencing homelessness, and supporting and enabling people experiencing homelessness to obtain stable housing, healthcare and community services. For a detailed list of members and supporters of the collective refer to the 'Our Community' page accessible here - <u>Our Community | Brisbane Zero</u>. Brisbane Zero refers to the Brisbane LGA focussed operations of Advance to Zero.

I acknowledge that members of the Zero Communities in Queensland propose to collect personal information (including sensitive information) to provide support services to me. These services include making efforts to better understand my needs to access housing services, and to attempt to provide support to access the housing, health and support services that will meet these needs.

By signing this form, I consent to:

- my personal information being listed on a 'Know By-Name List' of people experience homelessness in our community; and
- my de-identified information being used for advocacy, and to inform government and nongovernment agencies, research partners, and the community about the needs and experiences of people experiencing homelessness and required changes to the current housing and homelessness system.

I understand that:

Drint Name of

- Providing my information to be used in Brisbane Zero is optional, and I will still receive support services if I choose not to do so.
- Individual organisation providing me support services will also require me to sign their consent form.
- My personal information will be handled in accordance with the Privacy Policy | Brisbane Zero, which I can access in person by requesting a copy or which I can access online at brisbanezero.org.au.
- My personal information will be stored on an electronic database operated by CSnet; and
- I can request to access, correct, update, or remove my personal information by sending a request to brisbanezero@micahprojects.org.au

	on:
Date	:
	ature of on:
	Verbal consent Provided

Explanation of the AHVTT and consent

М١	/ name is	and I work for
,		

I have with me here a survey for people experiencing homelessness called the Australian Homelessness Vulnerability Triage Tool, which you may hear referred to as the AHVTT. It asks questions about your experience of homelessness, risk factors that may impact your life, your day to day life, and your health and wellness. This information is important to help us identify key health, wellness and housing options that will suit your needs.

The survey should take about 15 minutes or so. Throughout the survey you can:

- Stop at any time you choose
- Skip or decline to answer any question you do not want to answer
- Take a break and come back to the survey another time
- Change your answers at anytime throughout the survey or after
- Ask for some help with understanding what the question is.

The information collected will be stored within a secure database to which only approved service providers and their staff will have access. I ask you to be as honest as possible as your circumstances are very important to us and we want to make sure that the housing outcomes and support you receive are the most suitable for you.

		Composit			
		Consent			
1	Are you currently safe?			☐ Yes	☐ No
2	Do you consent to answer some questions to help us understand your service and housing needs?			☐ Yes	□ No
	Participant name				
	Participant signature		Date	e DD/N	IM / YYYY
	Surveyor name				
	Surveyor signature		Date	e DD/N	/M / YYYY
Sı	urveyor organisation				
	rveyor team name (if ifferent to org name)				
S	itate where survey is being completed				

A. Pre-survey questions

Firstly, we will just get some basic details about yourself, the type of stuff you'd put down on regular government paperwork.

	Questions	Op	tion set
3	What is your first name?		
4	What is your last name?		
5	Do you have a preferred name or any other names you go by? I.e. nickname, street name or maiden name	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	
6	If yes: what are those other names?		
7	What gender do you identify as?	Male Female Transgender male Transgender female Brotherboy Sistergirl	☐ Non-binary ☐ Gender diverse ☐ Other: ☐ Skip
8	What are your pronouns?	☐ he/him ☐ she/her ☐ they/them ☐ xie/hir	Other: Don't know Skip
9	What is your date of birth?	DD / MM / YYYYY 10 Age in years	
		If aged 20 to 2 If aged 18 to 1 If aged 17 or younge	9, score 2 /3
11	What is your Centrelink Reference Number?		
12	Are you a current or former Australian Defence Force (ADF) member? (If under 17, skip)	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Skip
13	On a typical day, where is the easiest place to find you?		
14	Is there a phone number for a person or a service provider where I can safely get a hold of you or leave you a message?		
15	Is there any email address where I can safely send you a message?		

	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander question				
16	Do you identify as Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander or both?	□ Aboriginal □ Neither □ Both Aboriginal and Torres □ Declined to state Strait Islander □ Don't know			
If Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander or Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, score 2: Add scores for Q10 and Q16 for total score for pre-survey:		/2			
		/5			

B. History of housing and homelessness

These questions ask about your previous tenancies, starting with where you've last had a permanent place to live.

	Questions	Option set	Score
17	When was the last time you had a permanent place to live?	years months Skip	/3
		If under 6 months, score 1 If 6 months or more and less than 1 year, score 2 If 12 months or more, score 3	
18	Including this time, how many times have you experienced homelessness in the last year?	times	If 3 or more times, score 1
19	Are you currently sleeping rough?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	If yes, score 1/1
20	If yes, how long have you been sleeping rough?	years months Skip Not applicable	
21	Have you ever lived in a foster home or any type of group home?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	If yes, score 1/1
22	Have you ever owned a house in your name or had a tenancy in your name?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	If no, score 1/1

23	Do you feel you have ever been discriminated against when trying to access housing or any other social program because of your age, gender, race, abilities, appearance or sexual orientation, or any other reason?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	If yes, score 1/1
24	Have you ever lost your housing because family or friends caused you to get evicted?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	If yes, score 1/1
25	Would you say that your current homelessness v	was caused by any of the following:	If yes to any of
а	You had to/chose to leave the family home, group home, out of home care placement or foster home.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	25a to 25d, score 1 /1
b	There was violence at the home between family members.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	
С	There were differences in religious beliefs between you and your parents/guardians/caregivers.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	
d	There were conflicts about gender identity or sexual orientation.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	
Ac	dd scores from Q17 to Q25 for total score fo	or 'History of housing and homelessness':	/10

C. Social and daily needs

These next few questions will cover whether you are able to get the needed health and hygiene services and income available to you.

	Questions	Option set	Score		
26	Do you have access to food and water when you are hungry or thirsty?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	If no, score 1/1		
27	Do you have access to a toilet when you need it?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	If no, score 1/1		
28	Do you have access to laundry or replacement clothes when you need them?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	If no, score 1/1		
29	Do you have access to a shower when you need it?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	If no, score 1/1		
30	Other than money for housing, do you have enough money every fortnight to take care of your day to day needs?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	If no, score 1/1		
31	Is there someone else like a relative or Public Trustee that administers or manages your finances?	☐ Public Trustee ☐ Not application ☐ Relative ☐ Skip ☐ Other: ☐ Other:	If selected Public Trustee, carer, relative or other, score 1		
32	Do you ever struggle to afford essentials because of gambling?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	If yes, score 1/1		
33	Are there any people that you can rely upon and care about you?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	If no, score 1/1		
	Add scores from Q26 to Q33 for total score for 'Social and daily needs':				

D. Risks and safety

With these next questions, I will ask you about your interactions with emergency services like hospitals or police and explore a little bit about what your safety needs are.

	Questions	Option set	Score			
34	Do you feel safe where you sleep?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	If no, score 3/3			
35	Have you taken an ambulance to the hospital 5 or more times in the last year?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	If yes, score 1/1			
36	Have you been to the hospital emergency department 5 or more times in the last year?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	If yes, score 1/1			
37	Have you been admitted to the hospital for any reason in the last year for 5 or more nights?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	If yes, score 1/1			
38	Have you had 5 or more interactions with police in the last year, for any reason?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	If yes, score 1/1			
39	Have you spent 5 or more nights locked up in the last year?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	If yes, score 1/1			
40	Do you have any legal stuff going on right now that may result in you having to pay fines you cannot afford, or which may result in being locked up?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	If yes, score 1/1			
41	Is there anyone or any company or any bank or any part of the government that thinks you owe them money?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	If yes, score 1/1			
42	Have you experienced violence in the last year?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	If yes, score 1/1			
43	Have you thought about or tried hurting someone else or yourself in the last year?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	If yes, score 1/1			
44	Does anybody make you do things you do not want to do?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip	If yes, score 2/2			
	Add scores from Q34 to Q44 for total score for 'Risks and safety':					

E. Health and wellbeing

Finally, these last set of questions will be about your physical, and mental health and any substance use history that we need to keep in mind when matching you to the right housing outcome.

	Questions		Option se	t	Score
45	When you are sick or not feeling well, do you seek medical help?		☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip		If no, score 1/1
46	Have you ever been denied medical help while experiencing homelessness?		☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip		If yes, score 1/1
47	7 Do you have any ongoing serious health issues?		☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip		If yes, score 2/2
48	If yes, do you mind sharing with me	e what the se	rious health issues are?		
	Asthma Brain injury Cancer Cellulitis Chronic digestive condition Convulsions Dehydration Dental problems Diabetes Epilepsy Foot/skin infections	Hepatitis History o Immunoo Kidney d Liver dise Morbid o Neurolog Respirate	Heart disease, arrhythmia, or irregular heartbeat Hepatitis C History of heat stroke/ heat exhaustion Immunodeficiency disease (including HIV+/AIDS) Kidney disease/ end-stage renal disease or dialysis Liver disease, cirrhosis, or end-stage liver disease Morbid obesity Neurological disease Respiratory disease/ Emphysema/ Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) Scabies		
49	49 Do you regularly use any substances, such as drugs or alcohol?		☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip		If yes, score 2/2
50	If yes, do you mind sharing what yo	ou are using?			
	☐ Bath salts ☐ Benzodiazepines ☐ Cannabis ☐ Cocaine ☐ Crack cocaine ☐ DMT (Dimethyltryptamine) ☐ Ecstasy (MDMA, molly) ☐ Fentanyl	Meth ice, s Non- rubbi			

51	Do you have a diagnosed mental health condition?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip		If yes, score 2/2
52	If yes, do you mind sharing what the mental hea	alth diagnosis is?		
	Bipolar disorder Obse	rodevelopmental disorder essive compulsive disorder onality disorder -traumatic stress disorder D)	Schizoaffective Schizophrenia Other (please	
53	Have you had, or been told that you have had, a brain injury or head trauma?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip		If yes, score 2/2
54	Do you have any issues that will likely make it difficult to live independently or where you would need more help with your health, mental health or substance use if you were housed?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip		If yes, score 3
55	Are there any medications you should be taking that you are not taking, not taking all the time, or using in a way different than how the medicine was prescribed?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip		If yes, score 1/1
56	Are you currently pregnant or think you might be?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Skip		If yes, score 1/1
	Add scores from Q45 to Q56	for total score for 'Health	and wellbeing':	/15

F. Demographics and additional questions

Thank you for going through this survey with me. I'll just take a few more details and then this survey is complete!

		Questions	
57	What is your country of birth?		
	☐ Australia ☐ New Zealand ☐ United Kingdom ☐ China ☐ India	☐ Phillippines☐ Vietnam☐ Italy☐ South Africa☐ Malaysia	Other: Skip
58	What is your citizenship or residency status	s?	
	 Australian Citizen Australian Permanent Resident Visitor/Temporary Visa Working and Skilled Visa 	 Studying and Training Visa Family and Spousal Visa Refugee and Humanitarian Visa Bridging Visa 	New Zealand Citizen Other: Skip
59	How do you make your money? (Select all	that apply)	
	☐ Age Pension ☐ Any other pension/allowance ☐ Begging ☐ Carer Allowance ☐ Carer Payment ☐ Disability Support Pension ☐ Family Tax Benefit ☐ Maintenance (Child support)	☐ JobSeeker Payment (unemployment benefit) ☐ No income ☐ Parenting Payment ☐ Rent Assistance ☐ Sex work ☐ Special Benefit Payment ☐ Student Allowance ☐ Work, Big Issue Vendor ☐ Work, Employee	 Work, Self-Employed Worker's Compensation Youth Allowance - Living at home Youth Allowance - Living away from home Other: None of the above Skip
60	Do you have a Public Guardian?		
	☐ Public Guardian☐ Next of kin☐ Power of Attorney	☐ Not applicable ☐ Other:	☐ Skip
61	Have you ever been in any of the following	g?	
	☐ Youth detention☐ Watch house	Remand Prison	☐ No ☐ Skip
62	How long ago were you last released?		
	☐ Less than 1 year☐ 1 to 5 years ago	☐ More than 5 years ago☐ Not applicable	Skip

		_

Score total

63 What do you need to be safe and well?

Section	Score acquired	Out of
A. Pre-survey questions		5
B. History of housing and homelessness		10
C. Social and daily needs		8
D. Risks and safety		14
E. Health and wellbeing		15
Total score:		52

Scoring guide

Score range	Category	Recommendation
0-13	Low	Short intervention required through information and referrals.
14-39	Moderate	Short term support to assist with applications for housing options.
40-52	High	Long term support to assist with acquiring housing and linkage to tenancy sustainment support.