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australian  
alliance  
to end  
homelessness

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Landmark Churchill Fellowship report calls for national strategy to end homelessness in Australia

David Pearson, CEO of the Australian Alliance to End Homelessness (AAEH), has released a groundbreaking report titled "[Homelessness is solvable: How we can end it in Australia](#)." The report, a culmination of Pearson's extensive research during his Churchill Fellowship in 2022 and 2023, offers cross-sector recommendations and actions to end homelessness in Australia, emphasising the urgent need for a national housing and ending homelessness strategy.

In 2020, Pearson was awarded a prestigious Churchill Fellowship by the [Winston Churchill Trust](#) to investigate and understand effective approaches to reducing and ending street homelessness globally. Over 12 months, he embarked on an international journey to the United States, Canada, and Europe, engaging in over 81 meetings, visits, and events with more than 112 experts, policymakers, and community leaders.

Pearson's report, which will be officially launched in a [webinar with the Institute of Global Homelessness](#) on November 10, outlines a four-point approach that a community can adopt to end homelessness:

1. **Have a strategy to end homelessness:** Pearson highlights the critical need for a comprehensive and coordinated strategy dedicated to ending homelessness, emphasising that this is a fundamental step in addressing the issue.
2. **Define clear indicators of success and regularly measure progress:** The report underscores the importance of setting measurable goals and regularly tracking progress to ensure accountability and effectiveness in homeless reduction efforts.

3. **Foster collaborative effort, learning from others' experiences:** Pearson emphasises the value of collaboration and knowledge-sharing among communities and organisations, drawing from successful approaches implemented worldwide.
4. **Commit and believe that it is possible to end homelessness:** Pearson calls for a collective commitment and unwavering belief in the possibility of ending homelessness, asserting that a shared vision and dedication are key to driving change.

In addition to these overarching findings, Pearson's report provides a set of tailored recommendations for various stakeholder groups, spanning government, not-for-profits, community organisations, citizens, businesses and more, aiming to inspire collective action towards ending homelessness in Australia.

One striking revelation from Pearson's research is the absence of a clear definition of what "ending homelessness" means, particularly within the Australian context. Despite the adoption of the language and branding surrounding ending homelessness, few have dedicated the time to precisely define what an end to homelessness actually looks like.

Moreover, Australia is currently the only country that Pearson visited that lacks an ending homelessness strategy, a deficiency that stands in stark contrast to the policies in England, Scotland, Finland, Sweden, Canada and the United States – all of which have policies to end homelessness.

While there is optimism about the Albanese Labor Government's commitment to develop a new national housing and homelessness plan, there remains uncertainty about whether this plan will aspire to end homelessness or merely better manage the problem of homelessness.

David Pearson's Churchill report is a clarion call to action, underscoring the pressing need for a unified, national strategy to end homelessness in Australia. It represents a significant step toward addressing one of the most critical social issues facing the nation and serves as a roadmap for all stakeholders to work together toward a future where homelessness is a thing of the past.

**Read David Pearson's Churchill Fellowship report [here](#).**

**Register for the report launch webinar on November 10 at 11:30am AEDT [here](#).**

**Quote attributable to David Pearson, CEO of Australian Alliance to End Homelessness and Churchill Fellow:**

*"If there is one single conclusion that my Churchill Fellowship has left with me it is this: ending homelessness is possible, but it is not something that can be achieved by one individual, one agency, one level of government, one program, building, policy or pill.*

*"Ending homelessness has and can only be achieved by coalitions of like-minded leaders, people and organisations standing together and saying enough is enough - that we will no longer accept homelessness in our community.*

*"Not only is homelessness solvable, it is necessary. Having a safe, secure, affordable home is not a luxury. It is a fundamental human need. There is no time to lose and much to be done."*

**-ENDS-**

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**About the Australian Alliance to End Homelessness**

The Australian Alliance to End Homelessness (AAEH) is an independent champion for preventing and ending homelessness in Australia. We recognise that the scale of homelessness in Australia is both preventable and solvable and that despite the common misconception to the contrary, we can end homelessness in Australia.

Since 2013, we have supported individuals, organisations, governments and local communities to work collaboratively across sectors to end homelessness – not just at an individual level, but systemically. Specifically, we work to prevent, reduce, and end homelessness by ensuring that everyone has access to the housing and support they need, so that any future incidents of homelessness are rare, brief and a one-time occurrence. This is how we define an end to homelessness.

Through the [Advance to Zero Campaign](#), our Allied Networks, and our [Training and Advisory Services](#), we support local communities to demonstrate that ending homelessness is possible. Ultimately, the AAEH exists to bring community, business and government together to inspire action for an end to all homelessness in Australia.