



advance to zero

local communities  
ending homelessness



## The Australian VI-SPDAT Version 3: Vulnerability Index – Service Prioritisation Decision Assistance Tool

### Summary Factsheet

#### The VI-SPDAT and how it helps to end homelessness

The VI-SPDAT is a pre-screening tool that is used to better understand the housing and support needs of individuals or families who are experiencing homelessness. By better understanding the needs of people, services can more effectively match individuals or families to the most appropriate housing option, healthcare service and/or other community supports.

#### The VI-SPDAT is a tool not a research project

The VI-SPDAT's purpose is not as a research or data collection tool, but to help ensure all individuals and families who are homeless in your community get the right response, not simply to collect information about homelessness. It helps communities build their 'By Name List' (BNL) which is an essential component of working to end homelessness in every community. De-identified collective information can then be used to support better system planning and to advocate for the precise housing and support needed to end homelessness in your community.

#### Working together to end homelessness

The VI-SPDAT is being used throughout Australia by communities who have already made a collaborative commitment to ending street homelessness in their community. It is the essential tool for communities to use as part of the Australian Alliance to End Homelessness' Advance to Zero Campaign. You may want to develop your own local project which can be linked to the national campaign.

#### Further information

If you would like more information about the VI-SPDAT or about working to end homelessness see the longer VI-SPDAT Version 3 FAQs on the Australian Alliance to End Homelessness (AAEH) website or email us at [info@aaeh.org.au](mailto:info@aaeh.org.au) (Fact sheet October 2020)