

## **SAAP IV – Proposed Evaluation Framework**

### **Background**

#### ***Supported Accommodation Assistance Program in Tasmania***

The Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) is a Commonwealth State cost-shared program with the Commonwealth contribution being 57.3% and the State's contribution being 42.7%. The aim of SAAP is to:

- Provide transitional supported accommodation and a range of related support services in order to help people who are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness to achieve the maximum possible degree of self-reliance and independence.

The goals of SAAP are to:

- Resolve crisis
- Re-establish family links where appropriate
- Re-establish the capacity of clients to live independently

SAAP is governed by:

- The Supported Accommodation Assistance Act 1994
- A Memorandum of Understanding agreed between Community Services Ministers in relation the SAAP 2000 – 2005. The MOU establishes the policy emphasis for SAAP IV (2000 – 2005) and provides national leadership, strategic vision and funding certainty for the program for this period.
- A Bilateral Agreement between the Commonwealth of Australia and Tasmania, which provides the legal and administrative framework, State and Commonwealth, agreed priorities, directions and funding.
- An Accountability Framework that includes key performance indicators and provides the basis for performance appraisal.

The current bilateral agreement between the Commonwealth and Tasmania expires on 30 June 2005. As per the terms of this agreement, the Commonwealth Government has commenced an evaluation of SAAP IV that is due to be finalized by 30 June 2004.

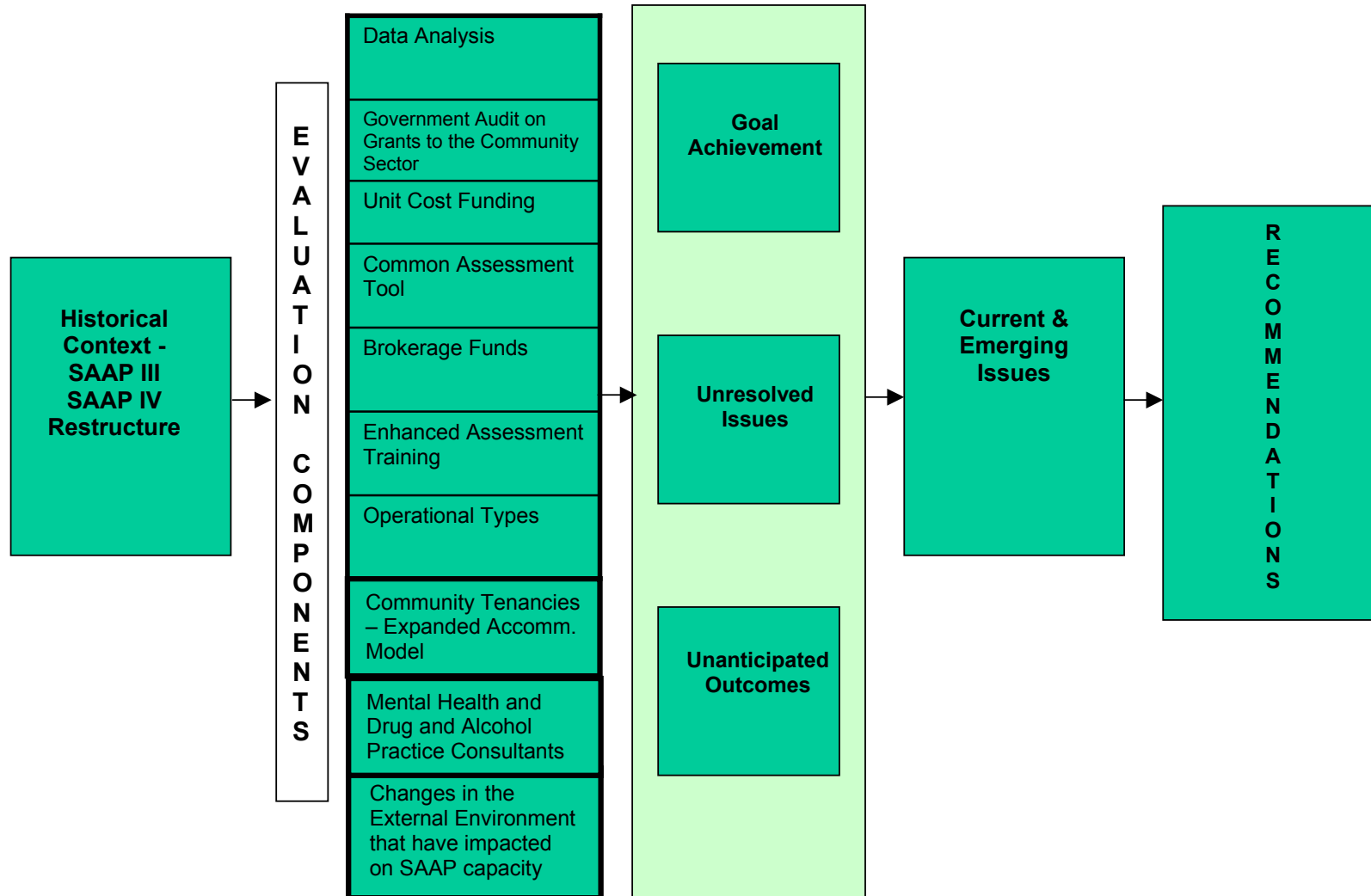
#### **Tasmanian Evaluation of SAAP IV**

Under the terms of SAAP III Tasmania was required to complete a state based evaluation that informed the National Evaluation. Under the terms of SAAP IV, however, a state evaluation is not required and the National Evaluation is occurring independently. The critical issue facing the state, however, is to ensure that Tasmania is in a position to make a clear statement regarding what has been achieved over the term of SAAP IV and to determine future directions for the program. This will ensure that Tasmania is well placed for negotiations with the Commonwealth regarding SAAP V. Program management believes that a Tasmanian evaluation of SAAP IV is the most appropriate mechanism to achieve this.

**Timeframe:** It is proposed that the Tasmanian Evaluation commence in March 2004 with the final report available by 30 September 2004.

**Project Management:** It is proposed that a consultant to complete the evaluation be appointed through an open tender process. It is further proposed that the project is overseen by a Steering Committee consisting of Departmental representatives from Children & Families Division, Housing Tasmania and Strategic Development. It is assumed that the appointed consultant/s would require a reference group and it is envisaged that the SAAP Industry Reference Group could take on this role.

## SAAP IV IN TASMANIA – EVALUATION FRAMEWORK



EVALUATION COMPONENTS

<b>Data Analysis</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) – Counting the Homeless 2001 report</li> <li>• National Data Collection Agency (NDCA) reports</li> <li>• Brokerage data</li> <li>• Comparative data across operational types</li> <li>• Productivity Commission Data Analysis – what does a longitudinal analysis show</li> <li>• Client Outcomes Data</li> </ul>
<b>Government Audit on Grants to the Community Sector</b>		Information available from the Audit of grant funding provided to the community sector. This audit assessed the effectiveness, efficiency and equity of grants administered to non-Government organizations by DHHS, including SAAP
<b>Unit Cost Funding</b>		Evaluation of input costing model implemented during SAAP IV. Feasibility of implementing output based funding model
<b>Common Assessment Tool</b>		Development, implementation and evaluation of the Common Assessment Tool.
<b>Brokerage Funds</b>		Development, implementation and evaluation of the Brokerage Fund Model Brokerage Data – Analysis of trends, effectiveness and efficiency
<b>Enhanced Assessment of Client Need</b>		Development and implementation of Enhanced Assessment Training
<b>Operational Types</b>	Adolescent Community Placement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practice frameworks within each Operational Type to be evaluated across the state.</li> <li>• Each Operational Type to be evaluated against the SAAP IV Accountability Framework key performance indicators as detailed in the National Strategic Plan. That is:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Quality – Evidence of the implementation of quality service measures</li> <li>2. Client Outcomes –                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proportion of clients returning to SAAP within 6 months</li> <li>• Proportion of clients who exit to independent accommodation</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Access                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unmet Demand</li> <li>• Proportion of indigenous &amp; culturally &amp; linguistically diverse background clients</li> <li>• Exclusion policies and practices</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Appropriateness                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proportion of support periods where needs met</li> </ul> </li> <li>5. Efficiency –                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost per completed support period</li> <li>• Cost per day of support</li> <li>• Cost per client</li> </ul> </li> <li>6. Service System Development – Evidence of Service System Development</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
	IEA* - Young People	
	IEA* Women	
	IEA* Men	
	Case Planning & Support	
	Transitional Support Services	
*IEA – Immediate Emergency Accom.		
<b>Community Tenancies – Expanded Accommodation Model</b>		Assessment of the impact of increased accommodation availability through the implementation of the community tenancy model to provide off site accommodation units to increase accommodation available to SAAP services.
<b>Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol Practice Consultants</b>		Evaluation of the impact of the implementation of Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol Practice Consultants at Case Planning and Support Services
<b>Changes in the External Environment that have impacted on SAAP capacity</b>		Decline in Exit points Affordable Housing Strategy Increase in ACP placement payments

**Key Questions**

- How has SAAP policy as embodied in the Act, Bilateral Agreement etc. been implemented?
- How has the Tasmanian SAAP Service System performed against the SAAP IV accountability framework as documented in the National Strategic Plan?

- To what extent have the aims of SAAP policy been achieved?
- Have the aims of the SAAP restructure been met?
- What issues remain unresolved?
- In terms of the future – what service improvements are possible?
- What issues are emerging?

**Project Outputs**

- A report on issues specific to each of the ten Evaluation Components with regard to SAAP IV
- A report with outcomes of the evaluation and recommendations for the development and implementation of SSAP V, including details of the approach and methodology to be adopted.