

## Priority 4 - Sustaining and Improving Public and Environmental Health Protection

The State Public Health Plan emphasises the importance of maintaining high standards of public health protection through the regulatory measures of the *SA Public Health Act 2011*, the *Food Act 2001* and the *Safe Drinking Water Act 2011*.<sup>23,24</sup> The Plan commits SA Health to work in conjunction with Councils to: ensure the effective application of the *SA Public Health Act 2011*; support regional models of service delivery; develop and refine public health policies and regulations; and develop public and environmental health performance standards.

### *What are we already doing?*

The Cities of Unley and Mitcham are currently trialing a regional resource-sharing model for environmental health functions. Since June 2012 the Councils have shared an Environmental Health Services Manager and this arrangement has been approved until October 2014. The model aims to promote efficiencies of service, sharing of knowledge, and a consistent and high level of environmental health performance across both Councils. The Councils have implemented a quarterly environmental health reporting framework to capture service levels across a range of environmental health functions.

Both Councils offer community and school based immunisation clinics for residents. Unley community clinics are held at the Unley Civic Centre and Unley Community Centre. The City of Mitcham provides community immunisation services at the Blackwood and Mitcham Community Centres.

Both Councils undertake routine inspections of food premises under the Food Act 2001. The City of Mitcham provides Food Safety Training to proprietors within the Council area.

The City of Unley's Manager Community Services has developed a draft model for addressing 'squalor conditions' through a holistic Council service approach, entitled 'Residents at Risk'. This model is yet to be trialed by the Council. Funding has been secured through the Eastern Region Alliance to address squalor conditions for HACC eligible residents.

### *State and Regional Strategy References*

- South Australia: A Better Place to Live – Priority 4: Sustaining and Improving Public and Environmental Health Protection.
- SA Public Health Act Squalor Policy.
- SA LGA and SA Health Immunisation Memorandum of Understanding (Draft).
- SA Public Health Emergency Management Plan (Draft)

## Strategic Directions

Action	Our Role	Rating	Council Project/ Strategy	Partners
<b>Public Health Protection</b>				
4.1 - Establish an internal model for managing household 'squalor conditions', adopting a holistic Council service approach.	Coordinate	■	Unley Residents at Risk Framework (draft).	SA Health SRSC ERSC
4.2 - Participate in regional squalor committees to encourage a cross-agency approach to squalor cases in the region.	Facilitate	■		SA Health SRSC ERSC
4.3 - Promote and maintain accessible immunisation services across the region and promote SA Health's educational material to improve immunisation levels for pre-school children.	Facilitate	■		SA Health
4.4 - Investigate a regional approach to food safety training for food businesses and continue ongoing program of regular inspections.	Coordinate	★		SA Health
4.5 Evaluate the effectiveness of the shared service arrangement for environmental health for the Cities of Unley and Mitcham.	Coordinate	■		
4.6 - Continue to implement Council Animal Management Plans.	Coordinate	★	City of Unley Animal Management Plan  City of Mitcham Dog and Cat Management Plan	DCMB
4.7 - Inspect, enforce and report on fire safety, building standard and swimming pool safety in accordance with the <i>Development Act 1993</i> .	Coordinate	★		DPTI SAFECOM
<b>Environmental Health Planning</b>				
4.8 - Maintain an environmental health performance framework for the inspection, enforcement and reporting of the following areas of environmental health management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food safety</li> <li>• Recreational water facilities</li> <li>• Cooling towers and warm water systems</li> <li>• Wastewater management</li> <li>• Beauty and skin penetration premises</li> <li>• Stormwater quality</li> <li>• Pest and vector control</li> <li>• Public health complaints management.</li> </ul>	Coordinate	★	Unley and Mitcham Environmental Health Performance Reporting Framework	SA Health

Action	Our Role	Rating	Council Project/ Strategy	Partners
4.9 - Liaise with the Department of Health and Ageing on the development of environmental health performance indicators	Advocate	■		SA Health SA LGA
<b>Emergency Management</b>				
4.10 – Plan for bushfire readiness in high bushfire risk areas	Coordinate	■	City of Mitcham Bushfire Management Plan.  Regional Bushfire Management Planning  City of Mitcham RedCross RediPlan	SAFECOM  Redcross
4.11 - Integrate public health risk assessment into emergency planning for the region: bushfire management, flood management and emergency incidents.	Coordinate	■	Sturt Community Emergency Risk Management Plan.  City of Mitcham Bushfire Management Plan.  City of Mitcham RedCross RediPlan	SAFECOM  Redcross
<b>Environmental Protection</b>				
4.12 - Continue to enforce water quality discharge incidents under the <i>Environment Protection Act 1993</i> .	Coordinate	■	Unley and Mitcham Environmental Health Performance Reporting Framework	EPA
4.13 - Continue services and education programs for kerbside recycling, green waste collection and targeted recycling schemes which divert material from landfill.	Coordinate	★	City of Unley Sustainability Plan  City of Mitcham Waste Management Plan and Environment Review Framework	Zero Waste SA  EPA
4.14 - Review waste management services for mixed use, higher density developments.	Coordinate	■	City of Unley Sustainability Plan  City of Mitcham Waste Management Plan and Environment Review Framework.	Zero Waste SA  EPA