South Australia

South Australian Public Health (Severe Domestic Squalor) Policy 2013

under the South Australian Public Health Act 2011

1. Interpretation

*Domestic premises* means premises for occupation as a place of residence;

*General duty* means the duty specified under Part 6 of the Act to take all reasonable steps to prevent or minimise any harm to public health;

*Relevant authority* has the definition given by Part 12 of the Act;

*Severe domestic squalor* in relation to domestic premises means: premises whose condition of squalor is such as to present a risk of harm to the health of neighbours, residents, visitors, persons legally authorised to enter the premises, or others;

*The Act* means the *South Australian Public Health Act 2011*;

*The Guideline* means *A Foot in the Door*, a guideline prepared by the Chief Public Health Officer and published on the Department for Health and Ageing website.

2. *Severe domestic squalor management objectives*

The objective of this policy is to apply the objects and principles of the Act through the identification and management of severe domestic squalor.

3. *Severe domestic squalor to constitute a risk to public health*

A condition of severe domestic squalor in domestic premises constitutes a risk to public health for the purposes of the Act.

4. *Application of the general duty*

Severe domestic squalor, as assessed by the relevant authority, constitutes harm to public health for the purposes of the general duty in Part 6 of the Act.

5. *Procedure to prevent or manage severe domestic squalor*

In order to identify and manage the public health risks of severe domestic squalor the relevant authority shall where applicable have regard to section 16 of the Guideline.