



Ray Williams MP
Minister for Disability Services
Minister for Multiculturalism

MEDIA RELEASE

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NEW OPERATORS ANNOUNCED FOR DISABILITY SERVICES

House With No Steps and Northcott have been selected by the NSW Government to run disability supported accommodation services in various regions across the State, following an extensive consultation process with people with disability, their families, carers and guardians.

These services are being transferred to the non-government sector to support the roll out of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

Minister for Disability Services Ray Williams said the providers had a strong history of supporting people with disability with a proven track record and critical experience, including in rural and regional areas.

“We listened to the feedback of clients and families from the recent family forums and this informed our final decision.

“Continuity of support for residents remains our highest priority. These operators already have a local presence and proud history of delivering accommodation services to people with disability,” Minister Williams said.

Northcott and House with No Steps were also selected for their capacity and vision to support the day-to-day and professional development needs of the dedicated staff who will also transfer.

“We know that retaining the experienced staff who carry out irreplaceable work with residents in group homes is critical to the success of the NDIS,” Mr Williams said.

The new operators will take on services in the following locations:

- House With No Steps (Sydney District, Northern NSW, Illawarra Shoalhaven, Southern NSW, New England)
- Northcott (Western Sydney, South Western Sydney, Murrumbidgee)

Northcott CEO Kerry Stubbs said her organisation was honoured to be one of the disability service providers selected to run disability supported accommodation across NSW.

“We see this as a wonderful opportunity to be able to extend our positive impact to people

with disability and their families throughout the community, and further our purpose to build an inclusive society where people can live the life they choose,” Ms Stubbs said.

Managing Director of House With No Steps, Andrew Richardson, said his organisation is passionate about upholding the human rights, dignity and wellbeing of all people with a disability.

“We are truly excited and honoured by this outcome and look forward to getting to know our new clients, families and employees, and welcoming them to House with No Steps. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to have greater impact in the lives of more people with a disability,” Mr Richardson said.

The transfers will occur from October 2017.

This represents 10 of the 18 geographic service groupings for disability supported accommodation that will transfer to the non government sector.

All NSW specialist disability services will transfer to the non-government sector by July 2018, as agreed by State and Federal government in 2012.

Today’s announcement follows the successful transfer of the Home Care Service of NSW to Australian Unity in February 2016, and this month’s announcement that The Benevolent Society would be the new operator of disability clinical services.