



Client Transition Project

What is the Client Transition Project?

- The Commission has commenced a process to transition approximately 60% of its existing accommodation service capacity to alternative service providers in the disability sector.
- This will give current residents real choice and control over their supports and services.
- The Commission will retain approximately 40% of current capacity. This will involve a reform of current service models plus additional emergency/ transitional accommodation services.

Background

- Transitioning to a position of less direct service provision has been the Commission's intent for some time.
- The intent is to provide individuals with greater choice and control over their services and supports.
- Aligned with broader national trends.
- This change is strongly aligned with the approach of the NDIS.
- Reflects State Government policy.
- Sector readiness.

Commission Team

This project is being coordinated across the Commission to ensure sustainable support models are developed for each individual transitioning.

Key staff:

- Sue Cannell and Neil Paynter
- Wendy Cox
- Gary Meyers and Lincoln Verral
- Marion Hailes-MacDonald

The Transition Process - Principles

- Transition will occur on a person-by-person basis.
- Each resident (and their family, carer, guardian) makes an informed choice.
- Groups of residents will be identified periodically to retain momentum in the transition project, but individuals may well finish at different times.
- The size and frequency of groups will be determined by our experience during the first phase of the project.

The Transition Process - Prioritisation

The Commission used five principles in determining which individuals would transition during the early phase:

1. Limited need for specialist support,
2. Complementary support needs within a house,
3. Needs can be fully met by an alternative service provider, and
4. The home individuals reside in is fit for purpose, or a replacement is identified, or
5. An individual self-identifies to transition.

These principles were agreed by an independent panel.

The Transition Process - Practice

- Families will be notified in writing before being contacted personally by the Transition Team.
- The Transition Team will speak and meet with families to discuss the different options available to them.
- It is anticipated that families will want to meet with and visit alternative service providers prior to making decisions.
- Independent Information Officers will also be available for families who wish to talk to someone independent of the Commission and alternative service providers.

The Transition Process - Finalisation

- Once an individual and their family have decided how they wish to proceed, the usual options exploration process will be engaged.
- Where a group of individuals wish to remain in their current home, the Commission's Business Directorate will liaise with other departments to facilitate transfer of the house lease and vehicle.
- The Commission's current ASD staff will work closely with the 'receiving' organisation to ensure a thorough handover.

Actions to date

- First transition group has been notified, and is being contacted by the Transition Team.
 - 47 individuals
 - houses are in Cities of Vincent, Stirling, Armadale, Bayswater and Joondalup
- Individuals in second and third transition groups have been advised they will be contacted in the first half of this year.
- All other individuals have been advised they will be contacted closer to the time of their transition.

NDIS Trial Sites

- In Cockburn-Kwinana, individuals will be prioritised in the same way as everyone else.
 - My Way Coordinators will be part of the planning process, along with the Transition Team.
 - The accommodation option will be part of the person's individual plan, not the entirety of the plan.
- In the Perth Hills, the precise mechanism will be dependent on discussions with NDIA. We need to ensure:
 - People are able to take full advantage of the process, and
 - Disruptions to people's lives are minimised

Staffing Impacts

- The Commission has ceased recruitment of accommodation staff.
- The Commission does not anticipate any surplus staffing during the early phases of the transition process; staff will be deployed within the accommodation service.
- Commonwealth legislation has the potential to impact in situations where DSOs employ ex-DSC staff; Disability Sector Organisations should seek independent advice regarding the employment of former DSC staff. [NDS is investigating this matter].



Questions?