

# Summary of key issues discussed at 11 February 2014, CEO Round Table Committee Meeting



## **Committee members present:**

Marcus Stafford (Chair), Ron Regan, Terry Simpson, Marina Re, Judy Hogben, Matt Burrows, Leanne Pearman, Tony Vis, Justine Colyer, Rob Holmes, Sue Ash, Paul Coates, Yvonne Parnell, Darren Ginnelly.

## **Other meeting attendees:**

Fleur Hill, Director, Strategic Services, Robyn McWaldron (minutes)

## **Accommodation Services Transition Overview**

F Hill provided members with an overview of the Client Transition Group as part of the Transition of Accommodation Services.

Please refer to the attached PowerPoint presentation which provides further details in relation to this item.

F Hill advised:

- The Commission has commenced a process to transition 60% of its existing accommodation service to the non-government sector.
- The Commission will retain 40% of current capacity. The focus will be on providing emergency/transitional accommodation services.
- Individuals will have greater choice and control over their services and supports
- Aligns with broader national trends.
- A Commission Team has been established to support the transition process.
- Transition will occur on a person-by-person basis
- A phased approach will be undertaken in relation to the number of individuals transitioning and any given time. There is no set timeframe for when individuals will be required to transition.
- The Commission developed a set of five principles in determining which individuals would transition during the early phase. These principles were agreed by an independent panel.
- Families will be advised in writing before being contacted by the Transition Team.
- The Transition Team will speak and meet with families to discuss the different options available to them.
- Independent Information Officers have been established with Therapy Focus to enable families who wish to speak to someone independent of the Commission and alternative service providers. The role of the Information Officers is about providing advice on the various models available, to answer questions, and assisting families in what types of questions to ask. Information Officers do not recommend DSOs to families.
- Once an individual and their family have decided how they wish to proceed, the option exploration process will be engaged.

- Where individuals wish to remain in their current home, the Business Directorate will work with Department of Housing (DoH) to arrange transfer of the lease to the new service provider.
- The first transition group has been notified, and is being contacted by the Transition Team. 47 individuals are part of this group.
- Individuals in the second and third transition groups have been advised in writing that they will be contacted in the first half of this year.
- Individuals in the Cockburn-Kwinana My Way NDIS Trial Site will be prioritised in the same way as everyone else. Individuals in the Hills NDIA Trial Site will not transition until the Commission has established a process with NDIA to ensure individuals can take advantage of the Commission's process and will not have to transition a second time (into the NDIS trial).
- Individuals determine who they wish to be supported by not the Commission.
- Key information has been provided to individuals and families regarding service providers. It is the families' choice who they wish to contact.
- The Commission has ceased recruitment of accommodation staff.
- Staff will be deployed within the accommodation service as the transition process progresses.
- Commonwealth legislation has the potential to impact in situations where DSOs employ ex-DSC staff. DSOs should seek independent advice regarding employment of former DSC staff.

T Simpson advised NDS have been liaising with the National Office. This matter applies to organisations covered by the Fair Work Act. The key issue that DSOs will need to be aware of is in relation to the transfer of business. Where there is a transfer of business and a DSO employs a State Government employee within 3 months, the organisation may be liable to maintain the employee's conditions of employment for a period of five years.

### **Key issues raised by members for further consideration by the Commission**

- How do service providers get to meet with families? It was suggested that an Expo is undertaken where individuals and families are invited, to enable service providers to showcase their organisation and provide information to families.
- Regular Communication and Engagement throughout the transition process, how will this be undertaken?
- Contacts for Independent Information Officers.
- Families advised of who the Independent Information Officers are.
- Transparency, ensuring level playing field.
- Scenario planning – develop hypothetical for group to work through to test for gaps and issues.

**Next Meeting: 14 April 2014, 11:00am – 1:30pm, Barry MacKinnon Room, Level 2  
Colin Street, West Perth**

ENDORSED BY THE CHAIR, CEO ROUND TABLE

Robyn McWaldron  
19 February 2014