

## For Aboriginal Community Housing Providers

### 1. What is Future Directions?

*Future Directions for Social Housing in NSW* sets out the Government's vision for social housing over the next 10 years: A vision which will reduce homelessness, provide more housing and support for those needing social housing and provide more support to help people divert from, or successfully transition out of the social housing system.

### 2. What is changing?

One of the goals under the *Future Directions for Social Housing in NSW* is to transfer the management of some public housing to Community Housing Providers (CHPs).

Over the next four years, and aligned with Future Directions, the Aboriginal Housing Office (AHO) will undertake a separate procurement process, to select suitable Aboriginal community housing providers (ACHPs) to manage AHO-owned properties across NSW.

### 3. Why are we changing?

We are taking this step because we believe the needs of Aboriginal people are best met by Aboriginal organisations that deliver a culturally appropriate service and understand the housing needs of Aboriginal people in NSW.

### 4. Where will the management transfers take place?

AHO properties in the areas identified by the Department of Family and Community Services (FACS) will be the first to have tenancy management responsibility transferred from FACS to ACHPs.

That is AHO properties in the following areas:

- Northern Sydney District (excluding Macquarie Park)
- Mid North Coast District
- Hunter New England (excluding Lake Macquarie LGA and Newcastle LGA)
- Shoalhaven LGA

### 5. Why has my location been selected for these transfers?

Your location has been selected because:

- It has a strong existing ACHP presence
- the existing local service system has the capacity to continue to support social housing tenants

### 6. What functions will be transferred to ACHPs in the locations?

Tenancy management responsibility will be transferred to ACHPs in the identified locations.

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### 7. What does this mean for me?

You do not need to do anything now, but if you are seeking growth and want to be registered under the National Registration System (NRS), the AHO would encourage you to address any outstanding recommendations under PARS in order to be NRS ready.

Over the next four years, and aligned with Future Directions, the Aboriginal Housing Office (AHO) will undertake a separate procurement process, to that being conducted by FACS, to select suitable Aboriginal community housing providers (ACHPs) to manage AHO-owned properties across NSW.

That means AHO properties in the areas identified by FACS will be the first to have tenancy management responsibility transferred from FACS to ACHPs i.e.

- **Northern Sydney District (excluding Macquarie Park)**
- Mid North Coast District
- Hunter New England (excluding Lake Macquarie LGA and Newcastle LGA)
- Shoalhaven LGA

As the AHO goes through its own procurement process, Aboriginal community housing providers in each of the areas above will be invited to participate in the transfer process via a series of Expressions of Interest, during which you will be invited to submit a tender for the management of AHO properties in these areas.

### 8. What are the next steps?

The AHO will be working with the Aboriginal community housing providers to strengthen the sector and prepare for registration under the National Regulatory System.

### 9. Where can I get more information?

The following documents have been developed to assist you with client enquiries:

- An [AHO tenant](#) fact question and answer document
- An [AHO applicant](#) question and answer document

### 10. What if I have questions?

If you have questions, please contact your **AHO Regional Manager** using the details below:

AHO Northern Region – Alex Webb – 02 6659 2636 [alex.webb@facs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:alex.webb@facs.nsw.gov.au)

AHO Western Region – Lyall Gibbs – 02 6885 7104 [lyall.gibbs2@facs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:lyall.gibbs2@facs.nsw.gov.au)

AHO Sydney and South East Region – Sharron McConville – 02 8836 9446  
[sharron.mcconville3@facs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sharron.mcconville3@facs.nsw.gov.au)