



# Homelessness sector update

**SHS Sector Network Meeting – 26 November 2020**

Anne Campbell – Executive Director Housing and Homelessness  
Strategy, Policy and Commissioning

# Acknowledgement of Country & opening comments

- Acknowledgement of Country

- Reflections on 2020

# Budget for homelessness services

- NSW State Budget 2020-21 secured funding for existing specialist homelessness services for 3 year contracts from July 2021
- DCJ is committed to maintaining current funding and service levels
- ERO supplementation will be built into the base funding from 1 July 2021

# Recommissioning homelessness services

DCJ will progressively commence direct contract negotiation with existing providers, from late 2020

New contracts will commence on 1 July 2021

Contracts of up to 3 years will be offered

Consolidation of sub-programs and contracts to reduce administrative burden

- Contracts will be based on the NSW Government Human Services Agreement (HSA)
- Contract negotiations will be informed by -
  - meeting current contractual requirements
  - engagement in work to strengthen focus of client outcomes

# SHS Recommissioning Implementation timeframes

Year	Milestone
<b>December 2020</b>	Program Guidelines and Human Services Agreement released
<b>February – March 2021</b>	Consultation on draft SHS Outcomes Framework and Program Logic
<b>January – March 2021</b>	Contract discussions and negotiations
<b>March – June 2021</b>	Training provided on using the Personal Wellbeing Index (PWI) and PWI tab in CIMS
<b>July 2021</b>	Commence use of PWI
<b>July 2021 – June 2022</b>	Year 1
<b>July 2022 – June 2023</b>	Year 2
<b>July 2023 – June 2024</b>	Year 3
<b>1 July 2024</b>	Full implementation of outcomes framework and use in contract management

# Together Home expansion

- **Total program investment - \$66.4 million**
- The program was initially rolled out in July 2020, with an allocation of \$36.1 million.
- On 3 November 2020, the NSW Government announced a further investment of \$29 million as part of the 2020-21 NSW Budget.
- The program is also being expanded in the Hunter Central Coast District for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 period with an investment of \$1.3 million. This expansion will use NSW Homelessness Strategy funding program funding to deliver an Aboriginal led model.

# Under 16s – Stimulus funding

- \$1.5 million stimulus package for additional supports for unaccompanied children and young people (under 16s) in homelessness services, in response to COVID-19 requirements
- One-off funding, announced on 23 October 2020
- Based on feedback from the youth sector, funding to be allocated to providers who deliver services to under 16 year-olds proportionate to their total contract value

# Sustaining Tenancies in Social Housing

## Total program investment - \$15.7 million, including

- \$10.6 million through the NSW Homelessness Strategy 2018-2023
- \$600,000 for Parkes
- \$4.5 million stimulus funding in 2020/21 for Tweed, Newcastle and Sydney and South Eastern Sydney Districts
- Current pilot sites – Murray and Macquarie Fields
- Expansion sites to be established by January 2021 including, Penrith, Bathurst, Orange, Parkes, Sydney and South Eastern Sydney, Tweed, Newcastle, Goulburn and Queanbeyan

# Temporary Accommodation update

**COVID Response, March 2020** – \$34M to respond to homelessness, including \$14M for emergency Temporary Accommodation to safely accommodate rough sleepers and those needing to self-isolate or deconcentrate from congregate homelessness services

**From 1 July:** Return to TA BAU with people sleeping rough able to remain in TA with support and a plan for longer term housing

**Current focus:** Supporting people sleeping rough into longer-term housing through the Together Home program

TA in 2019/20:

Nearly 27,000 households assisted

>10,000 households assisted April – June, including nearly 2000 households previously sleeping rough.

# In brief updates

## **No Exits from Government Services into Homelessness**

- Updated Framework for Multi-Agency Action recently published
- A priority under the NSW Homelessness Strategy
- Cohort rather than agency-based approach
- Annual action plans to reduce exits into homelessness

## **SHS COVID-19 Guidelines**

- Updated in September 2020
- Continue to manage and minimise risk of COVID-19
- Refer to Public Health website for hotspot information
- Further updates to be provided as information changes

# Further information and questions

Any further questions can be emailed to:  
[SHSProgram@fac.s.nsw.gov.au](mailto:SHSProgram@fac.s.nsw.gov.au)

DCJ Website: [Updates for the SHS sector](#)