



nsw Federation of
Housing Associations inc

Federation Bulletin



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Keeping Them Safe (KTS)

Mandatory Reporting, and Regional Engagement Tour

Under the new Wood child protection legislation, it is now definite that Community Housing providers are mandatory reporters.

It will be crucial that the new responsibility of all staff employed by a community housing agency is fully understood. This will need to happen at a service management level as well as with frontline staff.

A regional engagement tour is being rolled out about the Child Protection Reporting Changes facilitated by the Australian Children's Welfare Association. EO's and Middle managers are encouraged to attend this important workshop. For more information and to register, please go to http://www.acwa.asn.au/search_for_event_KTS.php

KTS will also provide a legislative framework for better information sharing between community organisations and government agencies. This will not only help access to information, but may also assist in continuing to press for a sector wide Police MOU.

If you have any enquiries about the KTS Engagement Tour please contact Katerina Lecchi on (02) 9281 8822 or email: kts@acwa.asn.au.

NRAS Round Three Update

NRAS Round Three opens today. But it goes ahead *without a guarantee of extension of charitable tax status for community housing providers*

While no decision has yet been made, this will put at risk the charitable status of any organization involved in Round 3 or Round 2 projects that will be delivered after the cut –off date for the current exemption. Members are advised to carefully assess the risks.

Meanwhile the Federation will continue to push for a favourable decision.

We have made a submission to the Henry Tax review on the need to ensure that providers don't lose the current tax concessions associated with being a charity if they take on affordable housing projects – particularly NRAS funded ones.

Maintenance Spending

Second Round to be released

The second half of the Social Housing Stimulus Maintenance program is just about to start. Proposed funding agreement should be going out to providers any day. This time they will go to *all* housing associations. Where there are more than one provider in the allocation zone, the funding will be allocated proportionally – and will take account of the funding that one provider might have received in the first round.

The first round of stimulus maintenance spending has been completed and community housing providers performed better than any other part of the system in meeting the targets

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