



nsw Federation of
Housing Associations inc

Federation Bulletin



In this Bulletin

[Changes to Child](#)

[Protection](#)

[Mandatory](#)

[Reporters](#)

[Decision Guide](#)

[Support Line for](#)

[NGO Mandatory](#)

[Reporters](#)

[Online training](#)

[available](#)

[Information](#)

[Sharing](#)

Contact Us

[Federation](#)

[website](#)

[General Email](#)

Changes to Child Protection Legislation

New Threshold for reporting to DoCS

Following the changes to the child protection legislation being proclaimed on the 24th January 2010, there is now a new threshold for reporting children suspected as being at risk of harm or abuse. Only those children assessed as being at significant risk of harm or abuse should be reported to the DoCS hotline.

Where a mandatory reporter has concerns for the wellbeing, health and safety of a child but do not meet the mandatory reporting threshold, you should refer the family and child to other support and information services.

Mandatory Reporters Interactive Decision Guide

To help providers decide whether a mandatory report is required, a mandatory reporters' interactive decision making guide can be found on the Keep Them Safe Website. This guide will assist you in making the decision as to whether the child should be reported to DoCS or other referral actions taken. The decision guide can be found here: http://www.community.nsw.gov.au/kts/guidelines/documents/mandatory_reporter_guide.pdf

Keep Them Safe

Support Line for NGO Mandatory Reporters

A quick and important reminder that Community housing providers are mandatory reporters.

The NSW Government has set up a phone line to assist NGOs specifically with the new reporting threshold. It is called the *KTS Support Line* and is a transitional service for the first six months of the new system that will be reviewed to identify future need.

The Support Line will operate 8am to 5pm, Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays), from 25 January 2010. The phone number is **1800 772 479**.

Keep Them Safe

Free online training available through the Department of Premier and Cabinet

- Access free online e-learning here
:http://www.keepthemsafe.nsw.gov.au/training/elearning_presentation
- You will need a fast and reliable internet connection using web browsers Safari, Firefox and Internet explorer
- If you cannot access a fast and reliable internet connection you can request a copy of the presentation on DVD using the email form located here http://www.keepthemsafe.nsw.gov.au/contact_us
- You can also download the Facilitators Guide and Participants guide from the face to face training sessions here
:http://www.keepthemsafe.nsw.gov.au/training/training_resources

Keep Them Safe

Information Sharing Provisions

- New provisions in relation to information sharing (Children and Young People Care and Protection Act) 1988 have been implemented.
- Prescribed bodies can request information from other services under the provision in regards to the wellbeing, protection and safety of the child.
- Prescribed bodies are defined as
- For more information, documents and checklists please visit the KTS website http://www.keepthemsafe.nsw.gov.au/information_sharing
- Fact sheets regarding information exchange can be found here:
http://www.keepthemsafe.nsw.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0016/70036/Facts_Sheet_-_Info_Exchange.pdf

NSW Federation of Housing Associations Inc
Suite 301, 64-76 Kippax Street, Surry Hills NSW 2010 Australia | T +61 (0)2 9281
7144 | F +61 (0)2 9281 7603

About this e-mail: You've received this email from NSWFHA because you've expressed an interest in NSWFHA and have given NSWFHA permission to communicate with you via email, as advised in NSWFHA's [privacy policy and disclaimer](#). If you prefer not to receive email from NSWFHA in the future, simply [click here](#) to unsubscribe. For enquiries please visit our website www.communityhousing.org.au or contact Adam West on 9281 7144 ext 211 or nswfha@communityhousing.org.au.