SUMMARY PAPER

Membership of Community Housing Providers- Campaign follow up



What is this follow up report about?

The NSW Registrar of Community Housing (Registrar) conducted a campaign in 2019 to better understand the membership arrangements of Community Housing Providers (CHPs) and gain insights into how changes to membership might affect CHP performance. As part of the 2020 compliance round, the Registrar monitored notifications by Tiers 1 and 2 CHPs regarding changes to membership base.

Methodology used

The Registrar engages with Tier 1 and Tier 2 providers annually. The reporting period covering November 2018 to May 2019 was initially used to gain insights into emerging trends and possible changes to the membership structures of CHPs. This process closely examined how CHPs demonstrate current practice and compliance with legal requirements for the various regulatory frameworks they operate under, monitored by bodies such as Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC) and the Australian Charities Not for Profit Commission (ACNC).

In following up on last year's campaign, the Registrar tracked notifications during 2020 from Tier 1 and 2 providers regarding proposed changes to membership arrangements.

The context of this intervention

Several interventions conducted by the Registrar in 2017-18 revealed a small number of entities had narrowed (placed restrictions on) their membership base, and faced difficulties when it came to refreshing the Board. In response, the Registrar sought to identify any broader trends and impacts amongst CHPs to provide preventative and better practise advice for any CHPs considering changes in its constitution.

Subsequent findings

This campaign did not seek to define a preferred membership model. The Registrar notes there is no clear evidence to suggest greater merit in either an expanded or reduced membership base.

The campaign found that all Tier 1 and 2 CHPs conformed to the National Regulatory Code. Constitutions governing CHPs outline their membership requirements, which are constructed according to legal requirements and relevant government policy.

No evidence of systemic weakness resulting in a potential to adversely impact the sustainability and viability of the community housing sector was identified through the campaign.

Similarly, there was no evidence to suggest that Tier 1 and Tier 2 providers are trending towards shifting its membership base.

For more information

If you would like to speak with the Registrar's Office about this report, please call 1800 330 940 or email us at registrar@facs.nsw.gov.au

Note: These findings are an interpretation of a sample of provider performance at a point in time.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Page 2 of 2

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