

Attachment A

**Letter of Support from Department of
Communities and Justice**



D21/51305

Kirsten Woodward
Manager Social Programs and Services
Council of City of Sydney
456 Kent Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Kirsten

Thank you for your email dated 18 December 2020 in which the City of Sydney Council proposes to directly fund and contract four homelessness services in the inner city from July 2021.

I understand that the City of Sydney has allocated funding to four homelessness service providers including Launchpad Community, Neami National, Innari Inc and the Aboriginal Corporation for Homeless and Rehabilitation Community Services historically through the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ). The Sydney, South Eastern Sydney and Northern Sydney (SSESNS) District has provided contract management services for these contracts since 2014.

I also understand that your email seeks to amend these arrangements commencing July 2021 and that DCJ will no longer contract and manage these services on your behalf.

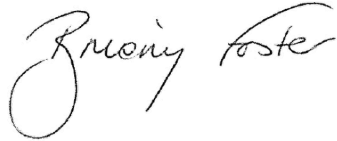
DCJ supports the City of Sydney Council proposal and considers this approach will provide benefits including clearer reporting lines for funding and outcomes; reduced administrative burden; and the ability to align the contracts with the City of Sydney grant funding processes.

I encourage a collaborative partnership between DCJ, the City of Sydney and the homelessness services in administering the contracts as it will be important to ensure that the services are consistently supported; data is not duplicated; and the same outcomes are not reported through the contract management processes to the City of Sydney and to DCJ. I encourage collaboration in establishing performance measures and outputs for the new contracts commencing July 2021.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the City of Sydney for your partnership and collaboration in working with the District towards reducing street homelessness, particularly through the challenges resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

If you would like to discuss this matter further, please contact Penny Church, Director Commissioning and Planning on 0401 144 434 or email penny.church2@facs.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Briony Foster". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'B'.

Briony Foster
Executive District Director
Sydney, South Eastern Sydney & Northern Sydney Districts
5 February 2021