

Department of Ageing, Disability & Home Care Mr Kevin Greene MP Chair, Standing Committee on Public Works Legislative Assembly Parliament House Macquarie Street SYDNEY NSW 2000

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Office of the Director-General

Dear Mr Greene

I refer to your correspondence regarding the joint use and co-location of public buildings.

The Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care (DADHC) is currently undergoing a program to consolidate its various business units where they are located within the same region or locality. This program also includes the relocation of DADHC staff who are still situated in premises owned or leased by the Department of Community Services (DoCS). You would be aware that DADHC was formed in April 2001 following a merger of the Ageing and Disability Department, the Disability Services arm of DoCS and the Home Care Service of NSW.

It is DADHC's intention, when considering the consolidation of business units in a locality, to co-locate with other human services agencies. This is done in order to provide a better service to the public and take advantage of shared facilities within a locality. It is implemented by way of joint expressions of interest or taking up vacant space within existing locations. In instances where functional areas of DADHC cannot be consolidated or co-located with a State Government Agency, its Home Care Service outlets are often located within a Home and Community Care (HACC) Centre administered by Local Government. HACC Centres accommodate similar groups to Home Care Services, eg. Meals on Wheels.

DADHC currently co-locates with other State Government Agencies in the following country locations, as well as numerous metropolitan locations.

Armidale Bathurst Griffith Newcastle Wollongong Coffs Harbour Dubbo Lismore Wagga Wagga Tamworth Queanbeyan Orange

DADHC is participating with various State Government Agencies in exploring further co-location options in Queanbeyan, Coffs Harbour, Tweed Heads, Nowra, Maitland, Newcastle and Gosford.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Brendan O'Reilly Director-General

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