

REGISTRATION FACT SHEET 1

Why is registration important and who can be registered?

Why do Providers need to be registered with the AHO?

Under Part 5 Section 26 of the *Aboriginal Housing Act 1998 (the Act)* Aboriginal community housing Providers (Providers) must be registered with the Aboriginal Housing Office (AHO) to be eligible for assistance from the AHO. This includes any assistance under the Remote Indigenous Housing National Partnership Agreement (RIHNP), the *Build and Grow* Aboriginal Community Housing Strategy (*Build and Grow*) or any other current or future AHO programs.

Why does the AHO need a registration policy?

The *Act* requires all Providers to be registered but does not detail the process for registration. Under the *Act* the AHO must determine the form and manner for registering Providers. The AHO has developed the Registration Policy to explain how it registers Providers. The policy describes what Providers need to do to become registered and gives details about things like eligibility, types of registration, types of assistance, and generally outlines the obligations of the AHO and the Provider.

Is the AHO required to maintain a register of Providers?

Yes. The AHO must maintain a register of Providers. This list is available on the AHO website at www.aho.nsw.gov.au.

Who is eligible to be registered with the AHO?

Organisations who provide or intend to provide housing or housing related services for Aboriginal people or Torres Strait Islanders. These include:

- An Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander corporation, or
- An Aboriginal Land Council, or
- A body corporate which the AHO is satisfied is controlled either directly or indirectly by Aboriginal people or Torres Strait Islanders.

What if Providers are already registered with the AHO?

Providers registered under the old system are registered until 30 June 2013. This is called a transitional registration and will lapse when they become registered as:

- an Approved Provider, or
- a Headlease Provider, or
- advises the AHO they do not wish to be registered.

