



Home > Statutory out-of-home
care and adoption > NSW
Residential Care Workers Register

Residential Care Workers Register

Development of a Residential Care Workers Register for NSW is underway.

The register of residential care workers who provide care to children and young people in residential care has in part been a response to issues raised by the sector around the need to prevent unsuitable people from moving between services.

The register will also align with the recommendations made by the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, that all state and territory governments should introduce legislation to establish a carer register to include foster carers, relative or kinship carers, and residential care staff.

NSW already has a register for home-based carers for children and young people in statutory out-of-home care. The new residential care

workers register will be in addition to this.

The Office of the Children's Guardian established a working group in 2018 with representatives from statutory out-of-home care agencies, the NSW Ombudsman, the Australian Services Union, and the Department of Communities and Justice. Through this working group, we have consulted on the functionalities of the register and defining the cohort to be captured. We have also discussed the operational impact of the new register, and there has been significant support for its introduction.

In parallel to the register build, we have been working with the Parliamentary Counsel's Office to draft the Children's Guardian Regulation. This will be the first regulation made under the *Children's Guardian Act 2019* and will mandate the operational requirements of the register. The draft regulation will be released for public consultation, together with a Regulatory Impact Statement.

Guidance notes have been prepared to provide information on what this will mean for designated agencies and their workers. Further guidance material will be provided to the sector and published here closer to commencement of the Residential Register.

Please send any enquiries about the Residential Register to residential-register@ocg.nsw.gov.au