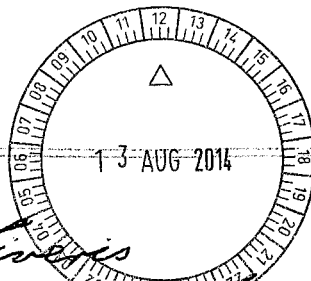


12/08/14



Peter Jones

Mrs Margaret Stevens  
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs  
G.P.O. Box 111  
Perth  
WA 6837  
COPIES to Senator O'Brien MLC (Lib.) (HAND DELIVERED)  
and Dean Nalder (MLA) - (HAND DELIVERED)

RE: PRIVATISATION OF DISABILITY SERVICES  
GROUP HOMES

I am the father of [redacted], who lives  
in the DSC group home located at Tyrebird  
way Thornlie and known as "Tyrebird".  
My daughter has been there for about 25  
years (when it was first built) and for  
her and the other 7 residents this is their  
"home".

The parents and guardians of all the  
residents, who need 24/7 care, are very  
concerned with the transition into  
privatisation as they cannot handle  
change. Most of them have been there from  
when it was first built as a "purpose built"  
duplex for the residents. The property is  
about 25 years old and was built from the  
funds received when "Devonleigh Hospital" site  
was sub-divided and sold off to the public.  
The Maternity Hospital in Perth St. Catherine's  
was the home for 32 children with major  
disabilities, until it was demolished.

The residents at "Tyrebird" are all  
around 10 years old and are not toilet  
trained, cannot eat without help and cannot  
talk, but they all know their carers and  
their parents and also know their "home". It  
will be a disaster if the planned transition  
takes place for all of them.

The parents of the residents are unanimous in their opinion and hope that "Lyrebird" remains as it is under the control of D.S.C. There is not a reason why "Lyrebird" cannot continue under D.S.C. as it is now.

The current staff at "Lyrebird" do a wonderful job and the residents are very comfortable with them.

The commission has designated four groups (Groups 1, 2, 3, 4) for priority in the transfer. ~~Our~~ Our children have been left in the too hard basket and are not in any group, with no certainty about anything.

The staff are also being affected with the proposed transfer and the uncertainty with what is proposed. There is no set period.

Please leave "Lyrebird", as it is, and under the Disability Services Commission for the benefit of all involved.

Yours sincerely  
PETRA JONES  
(JONES' DAD)