

## Network Secures 6 Month Extension for Parent-Managed OOSHs

Parent-managed OOSHs on public school sites can breathe a small sigh of relief. Network is pleased to confirm that as a result of our lobbying, there has been a six (6) month extension to the timeframe for existing parent-managed OOSH Services to begin operations under their P&C Association.

Parent-managed OOSHs with a licence that expires before 31 December 2022 will now have the opportunity to evidence that steps are being taken to commence a P&C-based OOSH at their school by 30 June 2023 (this was previously 31 December 2022).

This extension will also apply to parent-managed OOSHs whose licence expires between 31 December 2022 and 30 June 2023.

This extension is good news for parent-managed OOSHs and the P&Cs with which they are working, who have been left languishing in the absence of vital information promised by School Infrastructure (Department of Education) on the steps required to navigate the policy change.

Network has worked to ensure that parent-managed OOSHs are offered genuine opportunity to meet the obligations of the policy change that has meant that only P&C-operated OOSHs will be exempt from tender on public schools. While Network welcomes the extended timeframe, we contend that more is required to support Services to make this change.

To read the letter sent to OOSH Services by Claire Beattie, Executive Director, Asset Activations, School Infrastructure NSW click <a href="https://executive.ncm">here</a>.

## Network's Ongoing Advocacy to Save OOSH

Network is continuing its work to retain the strong and diverse providers of OOSH in NSW. The Department's policy change will result in the closure of parent-managed and NFP OOSH Services unless urgent action is taken to fund, inform and facilitate the change for OOSH Services. The reality is that OOSH Services will close regardless of whether such support becomes available: already OOSH Services are reporting to Network that their future is at risk, with P&Cs being unwilling or unable to take on their OOSH.

A reversal of this policy change is within the powers of the Minister for Education and Early Learning, and we are calling on the NSW Government to protect parent-managed and other not-for-profit OOSHs from tender on public school sites.

It's not too late, we can reverse the decision to put parent-managed and NFP OOSHs out to tender.