

## **OUTLINE OF PROPOSAL - WOODS COTTAGE TRUST AND CATHOLIC CARE BROKEN BAY**

CatholicCare Broken Bay (CCBB) is funded by NDIS to provide service and support for the residents at Woods Cottage. It does not receive funding support towards their accommodation. They are establishing a new entity CatholicCare Broken Bay Housing Services, (CCBBHS) which will be able to register with NDIS for development or purchase of housing.

The proposal

1. Transfer Woods Cottage Trust (WCT) funds and Woods Cottage (WC) property to the new (CCBBHS) entity
2. Transfer also the funds held in the associated WC Foundation to CCBBHS (approx. \$2m). These funds were raised to support WC and are closely linked. The funds are currently invested. The Foundation makes annual distributions of about \$70,000 to WCT.
3. The proposal would be subject to conditions, including;
  - a. The funds from both must be used by CCBBHS for the accommodation of persons with a disability, reflecting the intention of Tom Woods. The Trust deed provide for supported accommodation for the housing and training of mildly intellectually disabled persons. In this regard,
    - i. The existing WC is no longer fit for purpose and there are concerns about upgrades and legal requirements for continued use.
    - ii. The development of the site to expand the use, is very difficult because of new and increasing legal requirements and site constraints.
    - iii. CCBBHS will be accredited under NDIS and will be able to better provide accommodation for mildly intellectually disabled persons than the current WC, WCT & Foundation
  - b. The Parish would remain connected to the use of the funds by the CCBBHS (by 2 directors of Board). A clear Parish connection must be maintained.
  - c. The current residents of WC will be accommodated. CCBB currently manage the WC property and all services to and communications with the residents. It is imperative that residents and their families are kept updated on these discussions.
  - d. Communication to and support from Parish, especially having regard to the significant fund raising efforts to support WC and build the Foundation funds
  - e. Meeting all necessary legal requirements for the Trust and Foundation having regard to the various trust and foundation documents. This also includes obtaining legal advice on whether a capital grant from Department Social Security in 1984 impacts on the proposal. WCT and the Foundation would obtain their own legal advice.

Next Steps:

- Update to be provided to the Bishop on the progress of the proposal. In principle support has been indicated;
- Parish Council to be informed about the proposal at the meeting on 19 November 2024;
- Contact CCBB about;
  - communications with current residents of WC and their families,
  - progress of the Parish consideration and discussions including related to governance; and
  - any update on the establishment and work of the new CCBBHS entity ;  
and
- Update to and consult with the Parish (16 February 2025, after Sunday 10.15 am Mass)