



MEDIA STATEMENT

Tuesday, 31st January 2017

DG; Threatening families with removal of guardianship if they don't comply is not "miscommunication" – it is bullying.

On radio today, DSC Director General Dr. Ron Chalmers addressed ABC's Geoff Hutchinson about the forced privatisation of Disability Services Commission's accommodation services.

Dr. Chalmers said no threats have been made and there are no deadlines for families to find a service provider, but that contradicts countless accounts from both families and CPSU/CSA members.

CPSU/CSA Secretary Toni Walkington says stand-over tactics should not be used to make guardians rush their decisions.

"Threatening families with removal of guardianship if they don't comply to DSC's privatisation timeline is not "miscommunication" – it is bullying.

"Dr. Chalmers has suggested there are no deadlines at play, but we have the letters to families... There is most definitely a March deadline.

"The Director General needs to respect the role of families and guardians as wanting the best for the people they represent," she said.

Toni Walkington, Social Trainers and CPSU/CSA members will join with families and guardians of people with disabilities at a protest at the Minister's office tomorrow.

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AVAILABLE FOR COMMENT:

Toni Walkington, CPSU/CSA Secretary

MORE INFORMATION:

Gemma Walsh, Media Liaison

M: 0421 934 794

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