

Media Release

Wednesday, 20 September 2023

NCOSS CEO JOANNA QUILTY TO DEPART FOR SENIOR GOVERNMENT ROLE

After five years at the helm, NCOSS CEO Joanna Quilty is departing the peak body for the NSW social service sector to take a Deputy Secretary role with the NSW Reconstruction Authority.

Ms Quilty will head the Preparedness and Recovery Division, applying her years of experience working to ensure better outcomes for disadvantaged households and supporting frontline social services who are there for their communities when disasters strike.

NCOSS President John Robertson congratulated Ms Quilty for her hugely successful five years of sector leadership, and her strong advocacy for the rights and welfare of disadvantaged people and families in NSW.

“Joanna has displayed a tremendous capability to not only lead with compassion, but also resilience and determination,” Mr Robertson said.

“She has fiercely advocated for those doing it tough in NSW and for greater recognition of the social service sector and the essential support it provides.

“I can’t possibly list all of her achievements, but I’d like to highlight the important role NCOSS and its members played during the COVID pandemic and the response to recent climate-induced disasters.

“Joanna brought NCOSS and the role of essential frontline social services to the fore during these challenging times.

“She played a key role in elevating the voice of disadvantaged communities and ensuring support and resourcing for NGOs going above and beyond to keep communities safe.

“Whether it was tabling reports to Government on the shortfalls of the emergency response during the Northern Rivers flooding disaster; highlighting the economic output of the NSW social service sector and its potential for growth; or releasing research on the long-term economic and social impacts of COVID and other disasters – Joanna always had the best interests of the most disadvantaged, and the services supporting them, at the core of her work.

“Joanna was also instrumental in advocating for a review of the beleaguered ClubGRANTS Scheme, which was confirmed this year.

“I know Joanna will take all of her experience and time at NCOSS into her new role and we look forward to seeing what she will achieve.

“We will shortly commence the search for the next CEO and will have further updates on that in the coming weeks.”

Ms Quilty will depart NCOSS on 20 October 2023 and commence in her new role with the NSW Reconstruction Authority on 30 October 2023.

Ben McAlpine, Director of Policy and Research at NCOSS, will assume the role of Acting CEO while the NCOSS Board commences the search for a replacement.

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