

MEDIA RELEASE

NEW CEO TO LEAD FUTURE GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

16 March 2017

For immediate release

Women's Housing Company has appointed a new Chief Executive Officer following the recent resignation of Deborah Georgiou.

WHC Chair Alice Spizzo today announced that Debbie Georgopoulos will take up the role from 10 April. Ms Georgopoulos has worked for 25 years in government and the non-government sectors in agencies responsible for social housing, addressing homelessness, and women.

Ms Spizzo said: "Debbie has wide-ranging expertise in public policy, research, evaluation, cross-agency partnerships, service delivery, reform, change management and complex project management. These skills will be most valuable as Women's Housing Company charts its future in a competitive, rapidly changing environment."

Ms Georgopoulos said: "I am incredibly honoured and excited about the opportunity to lead WHC to deliver the best services possible to our clients and to leave no stone unturned in expanding housing opportunities for women in what can only be described as a housing affordability crisis in Australia."

Ms Spizzo also paid tribute to Ms Georgiou in saying: "In the two and a half years that Deborah has been CEO of Women's Housing Company, she has made an enormous contribution to the efficiency and effectiveness of our operations.

At the same time, she has safeguarded our reputation as a caring organisation that houses, supports and advocates for some of the most vulnerable people in the housing market. Deborah will be greatly missed by everyone at WHC, including our tenants. We wish her every success in her future endeavours."

Ms Georgiou will take up a position as Head of Policy and Communications at the NSW Federation of Housing Associations. She has led WHC through a period of significant change including:

- Embarking on our first housing development: a new generation boarding house in Meadowbank
- Involvement in the Older Women's Homelessness and other initiatives to ensure more older vulnerable women can access safe, secure affordable housing
- Establishing WHC's Specialist Homelessness Service for single women in South Western Sydney
- The move to bigger, more modern offices in Surry Hills, with better access for our residents.

For more information:

Alice Spizzo, Chair: 0419 260 708

Anna Grutzner, Deputy Chair: 0408 224 427