

Thursday 3 July 2014

BOARDING HOUSES FACT SHEET

City of Ryde Council has produced a multi-lingual fact sheet outlining the rights and responsibilities of residents, lodgers and owners of boarding houses.

The fact sheet is available in English, traditional Chinese, Mandarin, Korean and Vietnamese and provides information on:

- The difference between a boarding house and a share house
- The requirements for a boarding house
- Where are boarding houses permitted
- How to seek development consent to operate a boarding house
- What is an illegal boarding house
- How to report a suspected illegal boarding house.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Roy Maggio, said: “The Council’s aim is to protect public health and safety, and to provide easy-to-understand information for all sections of the community.”

The Ryde LGA is home to Macquarie University and two large TAFE campuses and responded to community concerns to protect students and vulnerable members of the community from possible exploitation by unreasonable landlords.

Council worked closely with community stakeholders, including Macquarie University, two TAFE campuses, and community groups, to simplify boarding houses policy and to ensure that adequate, affordable housing is available in the Ryde LGA.

In 2011, City of Ryde called on the NSW Government to tighten regulations relating to the Boarding House Act. Reforms to the Act were introduced by the State Government in 2012 and City of Ryde adopted a revised Boarding Houses Policy in 2013 that includes an Enforcement Policy, an amended Development Control Plan and a community education program.

Download a copy of the Boarding Houses Fact Sheet from www.ryde.nsw.gov.au Or pick up a copy from your local library.