



PSA General Secretary Anne Gardiner's speech at the rally on 13 November against the privatisation of ADHC

I want to start by saying that the Public Service Association of NSW says **YES** to the NDIS but we say **NO** to privatisation.

Mr Baird forcing all disability and Home Care services into the private sector is ideology gone mad.

Who asked the community if they wanted ADHC privatised?

That's right: no one.

In fact, if it wasn't for the unions and community groups working together, this mass privatisation would have slipped under the radar.

Today we are here to remind the Baird Government that we live in a society, in wonderful communities, not in economies, and we don't want this taken away from us.

Government has a responsibility for delivering the public services we rely on.

This includes road maintenance, child protection, TAFE, court reporting, public housing, land and property information and regulatory functions for transport and finances.

Each of the services I have just named are currently under a privatisation threat from the Baird Government.

However, this is all being done without any evidence that privatisation improves services or makes economic sense.

The private sector is already lining up to take over the disability sector. Serco, Moran, Bupa are just some of the big names waiting in the wings to take over this public service for profit purposes and this is being done without any debate, and without any transparency.

Forced privatisation of public services has monumentally failed in the UK.

Mr Baird, why are we blindly following a failed model of privatising public services?

The British Auditor General recently said that privatising public services has resulted in corporations like Serco fraudulently taking public money.

But nobody seems surprised because everyone knows that the main obligation of corporations is to maximise profits for their shareholders.

Well, in NSW, the people are here today to say it's not OK.

In the United Kingdom, public services and their assets were given totally to not-for-profits under a failed model of privatisation called Big Society.

In the last three years under Big Society many of these not-for-profits have been gobbled up by 4 major corporations.

This privatisation of ADHC denies people with disability the right to choose to stay with their current provider if that current provider is the NSW Government.

Everyone, irrespective of age, postcode or personal circumstance should have equal access to public services.

This is the hallmark of a developed and civilised society and this is what makes NSW a great place to live.

In NSW we have an election coming up and people need to tell our politicians that we want ADHC and other public services to stay in public hands and that we say **NO** to privatisation.