

## 28 August 2015

## Positive change to NSW Smart and Skilled Funding Contract

**Sydney:** Ashley Services Group Limited (ASX: ASH) is pleased to announce that it has received a significant increase in the financial cap allocated to its NSW training division through its existing 2015 Smart and Skilled funding contracts.

The increase in financial cap means that ASH now has access to over \$35 million in subsidies to support delivery of training and assessment services in NSW. ASH will deliver subsidised training in approved courses to eligible participants enrolled in new entrant traineeships and apprenticeships. A new entrant is defined as an employee who enrols into a qualification within three months of full time employment or within twelve months of part time employment.

Smart and Skilled Funding contracts are provided on an annual basis, therefore students must be enrolled before 31 December 2015 to receive training under the increased financial cap. However, the training is delivered over the relevant periods for each course, which will extend past 31 December 2015.

In line with ASH's existing Smart and Skilled contract, funding is allocated across dedicated regions of NSW and training must be delivered in the regions the funding has been allocated to.

Not withstanding the above, ASH maintains its market guidance for FY16, as released 19th August 2015. ASH will provide updates to the market as the impact of this increased funding allocation on expected enrolments in 1HFY16 are further understood.

For further information, please contact:

Ross Shrimpton Managing Director Telephone - +61 2 9216 4700 Email: <u>ross.shrimpton@ashleyservicesgroup.com.au</u>