

Student accommodation at Deakin: A unique approach

Vincent Wilson, CEO – Residential Services, Deakin University

Deakin Residential Services Pty Ltd (DRS) is a wholly owned not-for-profit subsidiary of Deakin University (Deakin), established to manage Deakin's on-campus accommodation and residential student experience. The purpose of Deakin Residential Services is to sustainably deliver an innovative and outstanding student accommodation experience. This is achieved through maintaining financial stability, enhancing student satisfaction, and providing exceptional living environments for residents. The provision of student accommodation at Deakin has grown exponentially under DRS stewardship from just 920 beds in 2012, to approximately 3,000 beds in operation or under construction today, with no third party finance or operations involved.

Vincent Wilson is a CEO, Director, and Industry Leader. As the Chief Executive Officer of Deakin Residential Services (DRS) he is responsible for the overall operational and strategic leadership of a subsidiary of Deakin University, with the primary purpose of sustainably developing and managing outstanding and market leading student accommodation premises, services, and support for Deakin students. Vincent is also a recent Past President of APSAA, the Asia-Pacific Student Accommodation Association, and has served on the 2019 faculty for the Global Housing Training Institute, one of the signature professional development opportunities for student housing professionals worldwide. With over 10 years' exposure to senior leadership roles in the hospitality, student accommodation, and university sectors, Vincent is a strategic thinker with experience across all areas of business operations.