

**Fire Sprinkler Systems
In Aged Care Facilities**

**Key facts
and figures**

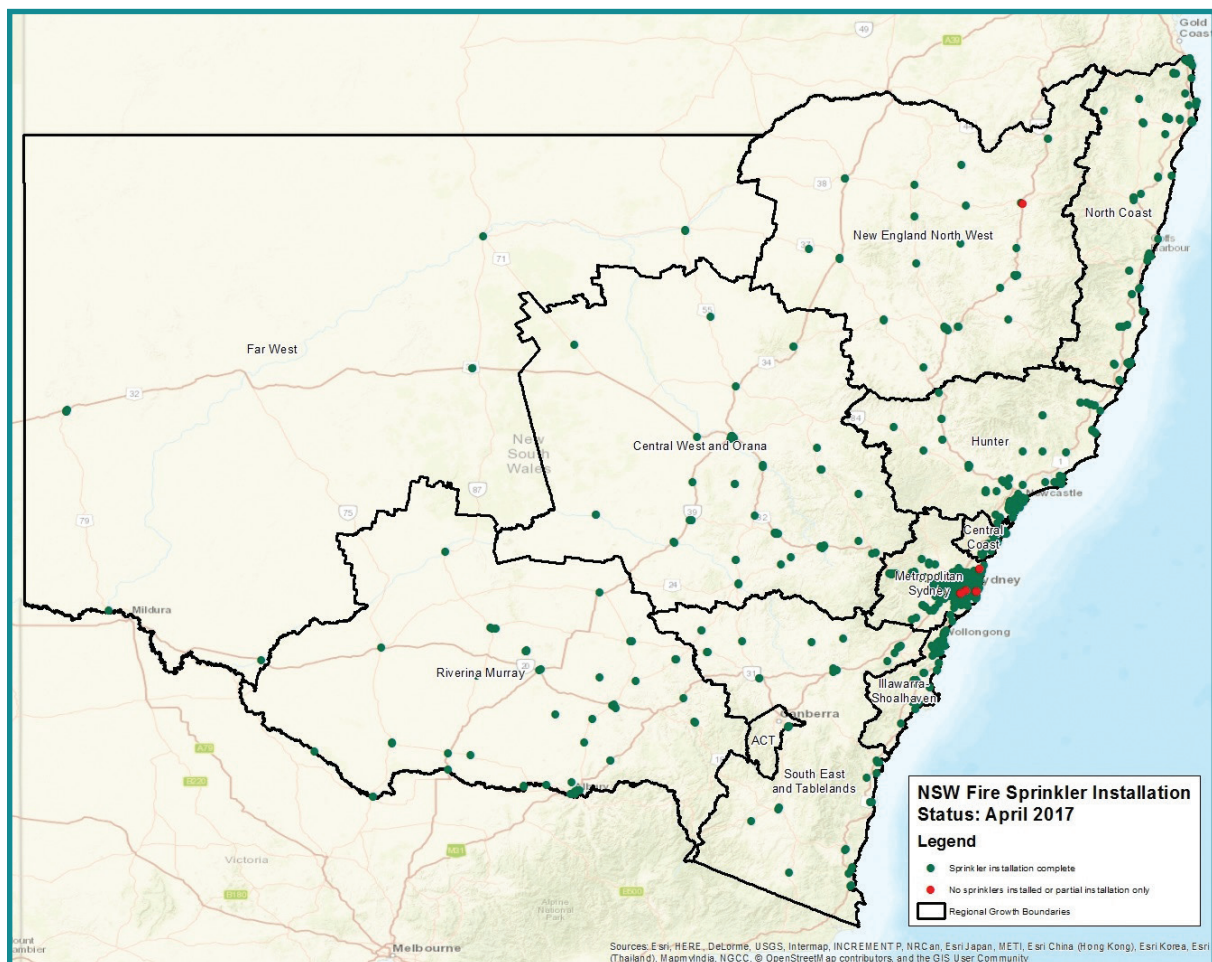
(May 2017)

April 2017

By the end of April 2017:

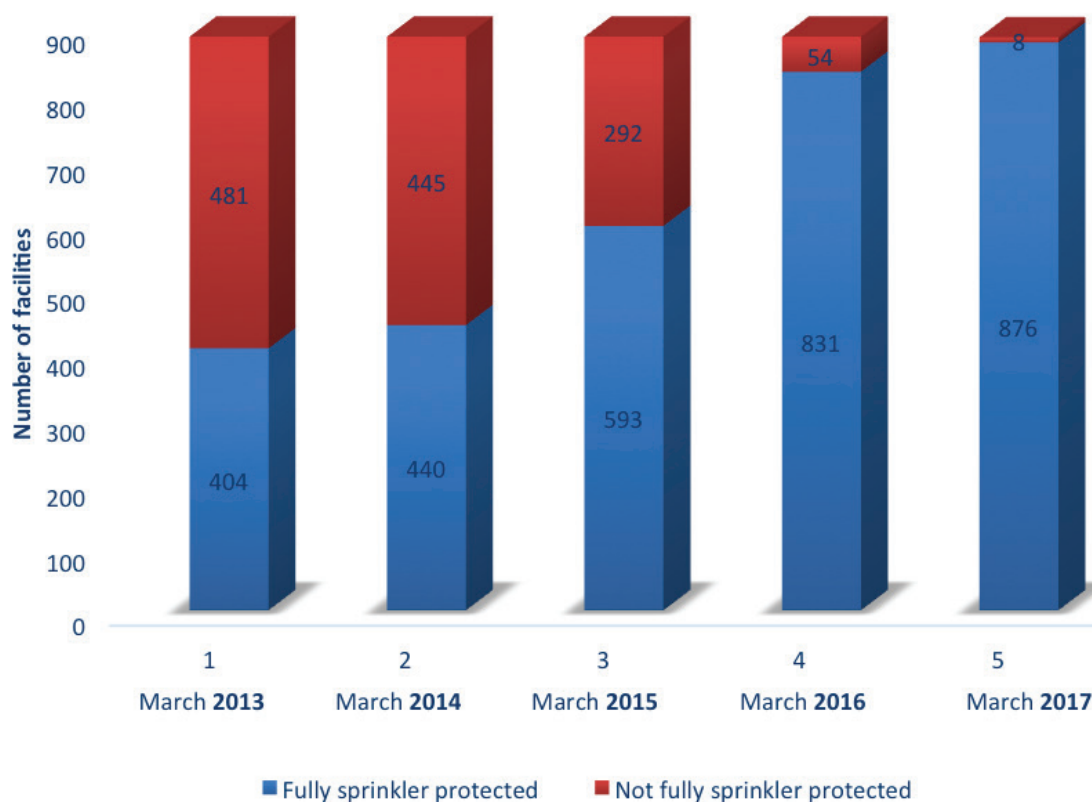
- 438 facilities have completed a fire sprinkler retrofit
- 8 facilities are due to complete sprinkler installation in the next few months, to comply with council fire safety order deadlines in some cases, or are finalising compliance documentation
- 35 facilities closed over the four-year period.

All 885 facilities and those with and without fire sprinklers as at end April 2017 are shown below.



Staged implementation

- 128 facilities nominated to install sprinklers by 1 September 2014
- 353 facilities nominated to install sprinklers by 1 March 2016
- Extensions of up to one year were available. 68 postponements granted by the Fire Sprinkler Systems Implementation Committee ranged from 3 to 12 months. One application was refused and sprinklers were installed within the required time. Postponements were conditional on fire safety reports, progress reporting and, for some, additional fire safety measures in the temporary absence of sprinklers
- Some regional facilities received an extension of time from the Implementation Committee and Commonwealth Government grant funding to install the sprinklers.



Enforcement actions

The Fire Sprinkler Systems Implementation Committee fostered close relations with all tiers of Government to ensure program outcomes resulting in:

- 29 Fire Safety Orders were issued by local councils
- 7 facilities were inspected by Fire & Rescue NSW to assess fire safety risks
- 7 facilities installed sprinklers to avoid enforcement action.

Stakeholder engagement

The NSW Department of Planning and Environment, with the assistance of the Fire Sprinkler Systems Implementation Committee, provided significant support to aged care providers, certifiers, installers and local councils throughout. This included:

- responding to about 4,000 calls to a dedicated phone line
- responding to about 5,000 emails to a dedicated email address
- dedicated web site, advisory information, e-bulletins, teleconferences, individual meetings and forum for aged care providers in July 2013 with case studies and an expert panel.

The Department and the Committee received a high level of cooperation and support from the aged care industry, building certifiers, fire safety practitioners, local councils, water authorities and the Commonwealth Department of Health.