



# Receiver to reveal tenderers

By TRACEY PRISK

ABC Learning's court-appointed receiver PPB Corporate Recovery will release a list of companies who have expressed interest in taking over management of two of its Orange childcare centres.

Following the collapse of ABC Learning last year, the receivers have called for tenders for a range of centres throughout Australia including ABC Orange Tree and ABC Orange West.

The tenderers will be made available to the public on February 25.

While ABC Kite Street and ABC Orange North were given the green light to trade as normal, Orange's other two ABC centres must wait to see who will take over their centres' management.

Liquor, Hospitality and Manufacturing Union (LHMU) assistant national secretary Sue Lines said there was a massive amount of interest from people wishing to run the centres.

"There were some 470 tenders who are interested in taking over the management of these centres and that is a very positive outcome for the childcare sector," said Ms Lines.

"In fact this could really change the face of child care in Australia."

Ms Lines said there were number of companies wishing to take over a large slab of the centres.

"Children 21 is a non-profit corporate group with a vast experience in child care and it wants to take over all of the centres," said Ms Lines.

"This could prove very exciting for everyone because Children 21 tend to like to talk to the community about what kind of child care it wants.

"There is also another group called CK who want to take over 100 centres in NSW."

Ms Lines admitted that the LHMU was apprehensive about local government taking over the centres.

"They may decide to take it on and then down the track when they need to tighten their belt they may want to give it back and return their priorities to roads and rubbish," she said.

"In the end when this is resolved there will be some really positive outcomes from the centres."



**ABC UNCERTAINTY: ABC Orange Tree is just one of two childcare centres which will be sold off.**

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