

Community Advisory Council communiqué

July 2024

The Community Advisory Council (CAC) met face to face and virtually on **Thursday 18 and 19 July 2024**. This communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations from the meeting.

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting and acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the lands on which the meeting was being held and paid respect to their Elders, past and present.

Matters that were considered and discussed by Council members included:

- The CEO update including the Complexity (Dawson) Review, and National Law changes in WA.
- The NRAS Complexity Review discussion with the external reviewer
- Update on the OHO work
- Overview of outreach strategies within the Engagement function
- Advanced practice for paramedic role
- Community newsletter

Members noted CAC members' reports – feedback from projects and committees.

The NRAS Complexity Review

Members welcomed the external review team Ms Sue Dawson and Mr Scott Marshall to the meeting. Ms Dawson provided an overview of the review. Members provided feedback about frameworks for community engagement, strategies for identifying and incorporating public expectations into the work of the health regulator and the need for connection between community members in Ahpra and the Boards. The CAC agreed to provide the Review Team with a preliminary written summary of their feedback and if possible a copy of the history of the CAC which has been submitted to a journal for publication.

Update on the OHO work

Lynne Coulson-Barr, the Health Ombudsman of Queensland attended the meeting and provided an update on the work of the Office of Health Ombudsman (OHO). The OHO is the co-regulatory partner in Queensland. Ahpra and the OHO continues to maintain a collaborative, productive and reciprocal relationship. All notifications about registered health practitioners in Queensland are made to the OHO. Through the sharing of information electronically OHO and Ahpra jointly consider, and agree, which notifications each organisation should progress.

Overview of outreach strategies within the Engagement function

Nick Lord provided a presentation on the overview of outreach strategies within the Engagement function at Ahpra. He confirmed that several National Board Chairs had agreed to the idea of CAC members observing a National Board meeting as part of their professional development.

Board members attributes workshop

The Chair welcomed Carol Nadar, NSW State Manager and Nick Lord who explained that consultation has begun on overhauling the Board member attributes. CAC members gave feedback about capabilities vs attributes, inclusivity of diversity in members, and the use of AI that makes it harder to assess skills. The Chair of CAC provided feedback on her participation in the recruitment process for the latest round of community members on National Boards.

CEO update

Members noted the CEO update.

Advanced practice for paramedics role

The Paramedicine Board of Australia have commenced a project to explore establishing advanced practice paramedic roles.

Members:

1. Noted the completed scheduled engagement with community through focus groups
2. Provided thoughts on the establishing of advanced practice paramedic roles in critical care paramedicine and community paramedicine, and
3. provided thoughts and views on achieving independent prescribing rights outside of jurisdictional ambulance services.
4. Commended the Paramedicine Board for engaging in outreach to stakeholders in order to scope the project.

The next meeting of the Community Advisory Council is confirmed for 29 August 2024 via Microsoft Teams.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pa Hall". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font. The "P" is large and loops around the "a". The "Hall" is written in a more straightforward cursive style.

Patricia Hall

Chair