

Communiqué

November 2025 meeting of the Accreditation Committee

The Ahpra Board established the Accreditation Committee (the committee) consistent with [Ministerial Council Policy Direction 2020-1](#) to provide independent and expert advice on accreditation reform and other National Scheme accreditation matters to National Scheme entities (National Boards, Accreditation Authorities and Ahpra). Other external entities performing accreditation roles as part of the National Scheme, such as specialist colleges and postgraduate medical councils should have regard for the committee's advice, where relevant.

The Committee issues a communiqué after each meeting to keep stakeholders informed about its work.

The Committee held its eighteenth meeting (hybrid) on 20 November 2025. Members who were able to meet in person convened in Melbourne. Members welcomed new commission representative, Ms Fiona Doukas and jurisdictional representative Dr Catherine McDougall to their first meeting.

The key areas considered by the committee during the meeting are reflected in its work plan.

Update from the Chair

The Chair advised of a meeting with the National Health Practitioner Ombudsman (NHPO) on the upcoming draft second report. The committee looks forward to receiving the report.

HPAC Forum update

The Committee would like to acknowledge the work and meaningful contributions of the outgoing Chair, Dr Terry Crisp and Deputy Chair, Mr Anton Barnett-Harris. The Committee looks forward to working with the new Chair, Mr Jonathon Kruger and Deputy Chair, Dr Louise McCall from 2026. More information about the HPAC Forum new leadership announcements can be found [here](#).

Cultural safety and eliminating racism considerations

Members reflected on the potential impacts for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples within the Committee's work plan and discussed how the work can contribute to cultural safety and the elimination of racism.

Government workforce and review initiatives

Members noted an update on workforce issues and the growing accreditation reform agenda, including accreditation recommendations within the Dawson review, which will be an area of focus for the Committee, the Scope of Practice Review which also has key intersecting recommendations and the NHPO's draft Part 2 Processes for Progress report, all of which have implications for reform.

Accreditation Committee workplan

The Committee began discussions on its future workplan and how it may be impacted by the outcomes of the Dawson and NHPO reports. It was agreed that the NHPO Part 2 report be circulated to members once published to enable fully informed discussions on the IAC's work plan in March 2026.

Accreditation reporting and workforce

The Committee commenced discussions on how best to capture and share accreditation data relating to workforce. Feedback from jurisdictions indicates that greater insight into accreditation and its impact on workforce (and workforce pipeline) is desirable. The Committee has previously discussed the idea of a dashboard to provide information on workforce pipeline to jurisdictions. This work will continue into 2026.

Professional capabilities: Common capabilities development

Members noted an update on the common capabilities project, including outcomes of the November 2025 working group meeting. Members endorsed an updated project timeline. Early engagement with National Boards, Accreditation Authorities and Jurisdictions has commenced, and broader consultation on the project is expected in the first half of 2026.

Reducing duplication in accreditation processes across the National Scheme

Members noted the outcomes of the November 2025 working group meeting, confirmed next steps as proposed by the working group and approved the schedule of activities. The committee discussed the need for clear delineation of responsibilities between accreditation authorities and bodies such as TEQSA. Consultation on a range of areas to reduce duplication in accreditation will take place across 2026.

Interprofessional Collaborative Practice (IPCP)

Members noted the outcomes of the final working group meeting conducted in November 2025. The committee looks forward to embedding this work into other areas across the National Scheme.

Other business

There was no other business raised.

Next meeting

The next meeting will be held in Melbourne in **March 2026**.

More information

Questions about the committee's work may be directed to the secretariat via email to:
ahpra.secretariat@ahpra.gov.au.

Members

Professor Maree O'Keefe	Deputy Chair and Accreditation/education expert
Professor Kimberley Norris	National Boards representative (PsyBA)
Dr Terry Crisp	Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum (HPACF) nominee
Mr Anton Barnett-Harris	Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum (HPACF) nominee
Professor Esther May	Universities Australia nominee
Professor Trish Davidson AM	
Mr Takudzwa Gandanhamo	Australian Private Hospitals Association nominee
Adjunct Professor Veronica Casey AM	National Boards representative
Ms Valerie Ramsperger	Jurisdictional representative
Dr Catherine McDougall	Jurisdictional representative
Ms Fiona Doukas	Australia Commission for Safety and Quality in Healthcare (ACSQHC)
Honorary Associate Professor Carmen Parter	Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander member
Dr Mary Russell	TEQSA nominee
Mr Michael Elwan	Consumer representative
Mr Jeffrey Moffet	Ahpra Board nominee
Dr Hamza Vayani	Community Advisory Council nominee