



Aboriginal and Torres Strait
Islander Health Practice
Chinese Medicine
Chiropractic
Dental
Medical
Medical Radiation Practice
Nursing and Midwifery
Occupational Therapy
Optometry
Osteopathy
Pharmacy
Physiotherapy
Podiatry
Psychology

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency

Agency Management Committee Communiqué

July 2017

The 88th meeting of the [Agency Management Committee](#) (the Committee) was held on Tuesday 18 July 2017 in Melbourne.

This Communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations from the Committee's meeting.

Chair and members' report

Members noted the update provided by the Chair, including a number of public speaking engagements and stakeholder meetings.

Business items

The Committee discussed the CEO report noting:

- The update on status of National Law amendments being considered by Health Ministers, with members endorsing a continued dialogue about further consideration of interim prohibition order powers
- Publication of submissions to the Accreditation Systems Review.
- Response to financial issues of importance to National Boards, including:
 - the appointment of a new National Director of Finance for strategy and projects
 - upcoming dialogue with National Board chairs at the Forum of NRAS Chairs and the importance of a strong partnership with Boards on financial issues
 - ongoing dialogue with the NSW Health Professional Councils Authority (HPCA) about the NSW funding arrangements and the follow up discussion with the HPCA and the NSW Ministry of Health, with involvement of Committee member Ms Karen Crawshaw.
- Members noted the presentation by the Executive Director, Business Services on the five year Financial Model – Status, Issues and Next Steps. Members welcomed the work which has been undertaken to date and requested further advice on the assumptions behind the AHPRA costs. Members noted that a similar presentation will also be provided at the upcoming NRAS Forum of Chairs.
- Status of the data request from the ATO and next steps.

The Committee congratulated staff involved in the 2015/16 AHPRA Annual Report which received a Bronze award at the Australasian Reporting Awards.

The CEO provided an overview of the overall findings of the first national Staff Survey. The results have been distributed to all staff and will be circulated to members out of session. The results and the proposed action plan will be discussed at the September meeting of the Agency Management Committee.

Mr Fletcher provided members with an update regarding the Notifications Think Tank which brought together 45 people from AHPRA, Boards and committees and the Agency Management Committee with a focus on what could be done better within current processes and systems as well as consideration of the design of a future system. Key areas for follow up include clarifying goals and ways of working, increasing clinical resources within AHPRA, improving our communication and engagement with notifiers and practitioners, testing new ways of dealing with enquiries and managing matters which do not require regulatory action, and; possible further revisions to delegations.

Dr Joanna Flynn advised that a number of National Chairs attended the Notifications Think Tank, which was very constructive and underlined a willingness to look at different approaches to the management of notifications.

A forward strategy will now be produced as a basis for wider discussion with National Boards and within AHPRA and for follow up action.

The Think Tank built upon the recent Medical Board of Australia two day conference with national, State and Territory Board and committee members and AHPRA staff. The meeting was focused on notifications. It was a very helpful meeting which considered how to improve the management of medical notifications. This included consideration of new ways of managing work nationally with state and territory boards, the further roll out of the triage model and the engagement of medical clinical advisors within AHPRA.

Members noted the update on the Research Framework and the summary of external data access requests for research purposes over the past 3 years.