



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

March 2018

The 95<sup>th</sup> meeting of the [Agency Management Committee](#) was held on Tuesday 20 March 2018 in Melbourne. This Communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations from the meeting.

In the absence of the Chair Mr Michael Gorton AM, members confirmed Dr Peggy Brown AO as the Presiding Member for the meeting.

The Presiding Member acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land on which the meeting was being held and paid respect to their Elders, past and present.

The Presiding Member welcomed Mr Ian Bluntish (Chair of the Optometry Board of Australia) who was in attendance as the new Co-Chair of the Forum of NRAS Chairs.

### Finance Audit and Risk Management Committee

Members noted the verbal update from Ms Barbara Yeoh AM, Chair of the Finance, Audit and Risk Management Committee (FARMC) and the unconfirmed decisions and actions of the meeting held on 5 March 2018. Three new members were welcomed to the FARMC: Ms Jenny Taing, Ms Allyson Warrington and Mr Tony Evans.

Key highlights included:

- The External Auditors were present at the meeting. No new issues or major risks for this year's audit have been identified.
- Two internal audit reports on the Three Lines of Defence and the Review of Administrative Complaints were presented to the Committee for noting. The AManC agreed that the Review of Administrative Complaints be presented to the Regulatory Performance Committee and the CEO advised he has provided the report to National Boards.
- FARMC members discussed the graduate registration issues which had impacted graduates at the beginning of 2018 and noted the contribution of the design of the on line form to the issue. This issue has now been resolved.
- The Digital House and Pulse Quality Review reports were presented to the Committee for noting.
- The Work Health and Safety Performance Report was presented for noting. The gradual improvement in the lost time injury frequency rate was observed, but AHPRA is still slightly above the relevant industry benchmark rate. FARMC has requested further information with a particular focus on the role of our work cover provider and our progress against industry benchmarks.
- A paper regarding the data centre migration was presented for noting.
- The AHPRA Operating and Capital Budget 2018-19 was presented for noting. Members have sought further information on the proposed level of expenditure for the digital workplace, particularly in relation to the benchmark costs for fit out of offices.

The Presiding Member thanked Ms Yeoh for her report.

A workshop on strategic risks will be undertaken in conjunction with the April AManC meeting to inform the Internal Audit Plan for 2018/19.

### CEO Report

Members noted the written report and the verbal update from Mr Fletcher, including:

- Ms Rachel Hunter has not taken up the appointment of the Queensland Health Ombudsman as she has been appointed as a Director General within a Queensland government department.
- Mr Martin Fletcher and Ms Rose Kent, State Manager Queensland provided a private briefing to the Queensland Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee on 19 March at the request of the Committee.

- As follow-on work from the recent Chaperone Review, the links to tribunal outcomes on the public register is being rolled out. Initially it will be tribunal matters from the previous 12 months for medicine, with the intention to progressively include all matters dated back to July 2010.
- The recent meeting of the Jurisdictional Advisory Committee with a focus on the registration standards for paramedicine to be submitted for Ministerial approval.
- An update on actions underway following the release of the report of the Independent Commissioner Against Corruption into the Oakden Older Persons Mental Health Facility, 'Oakden: A Shameful Chapter in South Australia's History' on 28 February 2018.

The Presiding Member thanked Mr Fletcher for his report.

#### **Business items**

In other business items, the Committee:

- Noted the AHPRA Budget Narrative for 2018-19 and the provisional operating and capital budget which will be provided to National Boards to inform their budget and fee setting process.
- Approved the final terms of reference for the Accreditation Advisory Committee, and approved the membership of the Accreditation Advisory Committee, noting that there will be further consideration of the National Board community member nominee for the Committee.
- Noted the draft consultation paper, 'Regulation of Australia's health professions: Keeping the National Law up to date and fit for purpose' and approved the feedback on practicality and feasibility of the proposals to be provided to the Legislation Committee.
- Agreed to the draft Statement of Intent for the National Scheme Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Strategy for signature by the Chair on behalf of the Agency Management Committee.
- Agreed to undertake an update effectiveness review of the Board, the Finance, Audit and Risk Management Committee, Regulatory Performance Committee and the Remuneration Committee by the end of June 2018 and requested that there be a section on the steps the Agency Management Committee takes to review its effectiveness in future Annual Reports.
- Noted the update on the implementation of the Staff Survey Action Plan.
- Welcomed the presentation providing an overview of the Regulatory Operating Model changes and Digital House.

#### **Next meeting of the Agency Management Committee**

- 17 April 2018, AHPRA National Office, Melbourne