

Elections and statistics

APHA announces membership of the APHA Council for 2014-2016 and prepares to make another submission to the government's Competition Policy Review

APHA Council 2014/2016 Elections

APHA recently held bi-annual elections for the APHA Council. Following the recent elections, membership of the APHA Council for 2014-2016 is:

For Profit Large Group

Steve Atkins (Healthe Care)
Michael Coglin (Healthscope)
Robert Cooke (Healthscope)
Andrew Currie (Healthscope)
Gavin O'Meara (Ramsay Health Care Australia)
Malcolm Passmore (Ramsay Health Care Australia)
Geoff Sam (Healthe Care)
Danny Sims (Ramsay Health Care)
David Wenkart (Macquarie Health Corporation)

For Profit Small Group Large Independent

Phillipa Blakey (Pulse Health Limited)

For Profit Small Independent

Denise Thomas (Metropolitan Rehabilitation Hospital)

Not for Profit Large Group

Philip Currie (Sydney Adventist Hospital)
Alan Kinkade (Epworth HealthCare)
Richard Royle (UnitingCare Health Group)

Not for Profit Small Group Large Independent

Alan Cooper (Friendly Society Private Hospital)

Not for Profit Small Independent

Allan Boston (The Bays Hospital - Mornington)

Day Hospitals

Anne Crouch (Cura Day Hospitals Group)

Psychiatry

Christine Gee (Toowong Private Hospital)

Rehabilitation

Vincent Borg (Epworth HealthCare)

Regional Representatives

NSW Robert Cusack (St Vincent's Private Hospital)

Queensland Ray Fairweather (St Andrew's Toowoomba Hospital)

SA Alan Morrison (Sportsmed SA Hospital)

Tasmania Amanda Quealy (The Hobart Clinic)

Victoria Vicki Canning (Western Private Hospital)

WA Moira Munro (Perth Clinic)

Councillors will take up their seats in early October. APHA office bearers (president, vice-president, chairman of council and treasurer) and additional directors of the APHA Board will be elected at the first meeting of the APHA Council, scheduled for 28 October 2014.

Competition Policy Review

On 22 September, the draft report of the Australian Government's Competition Policy Review was released. APHA had previously provided a written submission to the review and was subsequently invited to participate in a face-to-face consultation.

In relation to human services (including health, education and community services), the review panel made the following recommendations:

Australian governments should craft an intergovernmental agreement establishing choice and competition principles in the field of human services.

The guiding principles should include:

- user choice should be placed at the heart of service delivery;
- funding, regulation and service delivery should be separate;
- a diversity of providers should be encouraged, while not crowding out community and voluntary services; and
- innovation in service provision should

be stimulated, while ensuring access to high-quality human services.

Each jurisdiction should develop an implementation plan founded on these principles that reflects the unique characteristics of providing human services in its jurisdiction.

The report also quotes APHA's submission as an example of concerns raised by stakeholders about the application of competitive neutrality.

APHA will make a further submission (due by 17 November) to the review.

PHIAC Data – Headlines from June 2014

The Private Health Insurance Administration Council (PHIAC) has released its quarterly statistics for the June 2014 quarter.

Participation in private health insurance hospital cover has increased by 0.2 percentage points since the March quarter to 47.2 per cent. As at 30 June 2014, 11.1 million Australians had hospital cover of some sort. Even though the overall cover has increased (which may be due to seasonal factors), policies that have exclusions have continued to rise. More than one in four (25.5 per cent) policies now have exclusions. APHA members had a full breakdown of the report emailed to them. [PH](#)