



**Australian Government**

**Department of Health**

**SECRETARY**

Mr Peter Crone  
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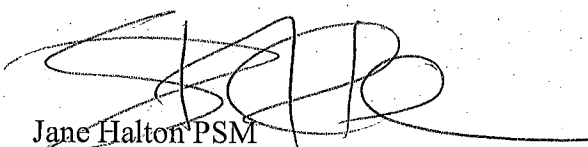
Dear Mr Crone *beh*

Thank you for your letter of 15 November 2013 seeking information on agencies, boards and committees within the Health portfolio.

The information requested has been forwarded to your office in electronic form as required.

I also look forward to a constructive relationship with the Commission of Audit, so please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further information or clarification.

Yours sincerely

  
Jane Halton PSM  
Secretary

*n* November 2013

## Health Portfolio Bodies

Body	Description	Legislation
Advisory Committee on Biologicals	Advisory Committee on Biologicals provides independent medical and scientific advice to the Minister for Health and the Therapeutic Goods Administration in relation to cell and tissue therapy products.	Therapeutic Goods Regulations 1990
Advisory Committee on Chemicals Scheduling	The Advisory Committee on Chemicals Scheduling advises and makes recommendations to the Secretary of the Department of Health on the level of consumer access required for chemicals.	Therapeutic Goods Regulations 1991
Advisory Committee on Complementary Medicines	The Advisory Committee on Complementary Medicines advises and makes recommendations to the Therapeutic Goods Administration on the inclusion, variation or retention of a complementary medicine in the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods.	Therapeutic Goods Regulations 1992
Advisory Committee on Medical Devices	The Advisory Committee on Medical Devices provides independent medical and scientific advice to the Minister for Health and the Therapeutic Goods Administration on safety, quality and performance of medical devices supplied in Australia including issues relating to premarket conformity assessment and post market monitoring.	Therapeutic Goods Regulations 1993
Advisory Committee on Medicines Scheduling	The Advisory Committee on Medicines Scheduling advises and makes recommendations to the Secretary of the Department of Health on the level of consumer access required for medicines.	Therapeutic Goods Regulations 1994
Advisory Committee on Non-prescription Medicines	The Advisory Committee on Non-prescription Medicines advises and makes recommendations to the Therapeutic Goods Administration regarding the entry of non-prescription medicines on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods.	Therapeutic Goods Regulations 1995
Advisory Committee on Prescription Medicines	The Advisory Committee on Prescription Medicines advises and makes recommendations to the TGA on prescription medicines.	Therapeutic Goods Regulations 1996
Advisory Committee on the Safety of Medical Devices	The Advisory Committee on the Safety of Medical Devices advises and make recommendations to the Minister for Health and the Therapeutic Goods Administration on the safety, risk assessment, risk management and performance of medical devices supplied in Australia.	Therapeutic Goods Regulations 1997
Advisory Committee on the Safety of Medicines	The Advisory Committee on the Safety of Medicines advises and makes recommendations to the TGA on the safety of medicines and risk assessment and risk management of medicines	Therapeutic Goods Regulations 1998
Advisory Committee on the Safety of Vaccines	The Advisory Committee on the Safety of Vaccines advises and make recommendations to the Minister for Health and the Therapeutic Goods Administration on the safety, risk assessment and risk management of vaccines.	Therapeutic Goods Regulations 1999
Anti Doping Research Panel	The Anti Doping Research Panel assesses applications for funding under the program and monitors the progress of funded projects.	Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority Act 2006

Anti Doping Rule Violation Panel	The Anti Doping Research Panel assesses applications for funding under the program and monitors the progress of funded projects.	<i>Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority Act 2007</i>
Australian Community Pharmacy Authority	The Australian Community Pharmacy Authority is a Statutory Authority established under the National Health Act 1953. It considers applications for approval to supply pharmaceutical benefits under section 90 of National Health Act 1953 against the requirements of the Pharmacy Location Rules, and makes recommendations to delegated officers of the Secretary of the Department of Health in the Department of Human Services as to whether or not an application should be approved.	<i>National Health Act 1953</i>
Australian National Council on Drugs	The Australian National Council on Drugs advises the Prime Minister and Government on drug policy and plays a critical role in ensuring the voice of the community is heard in relation to drug related policies and strategies.	Nil - Term of Reference Only
Australian Suicide Prevention Advisory Council	The Australian Suicide Prevention Advisory Council advises the Government on strategic directions and priorities in relation to the prevention of suicide and self-harm to support implementation of the National Suicide Prevention Program (NSPP) and the Taking Action to Tackle Suicide package.	Nil
Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI)	The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation advises the Minister for Health on the medical administration of vaccines and advises the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee on matters relating to the ongoing strength of evidence pertaining to existing, new and emerging vaccines.	Nil - Term of Reference Only
Australian Therapeutic Goods Advisory Council	The Australian Therapeutic Goods Advisory Council provides broad strategic advice to the Therapeutic Goods Administration, with an emphasis on improving communications between the regulator and its key stakeholders.	<i>Therapeutic Goods Regulations 1990</i>
Codes of Conduct Advisory Group	The Codes of Conduct Advisory Group is an industry led implementation advisory group that is guiding work to implement reforms aimed at strengthening the therapeutic goods industry's self regulatory framework for the promotion of therapeutic goods.	Nil
Expert Panel - to review Elective Surgery and Emergency Access Targets under the NPA on PHHS	Expert Panel to review Elective Surgery and Emergency Access Targets under the National Partnership Agreement on Improving Public Hospital Services provides advice to the Council of Australian Governments on safety and quality issues and practical impediments to the timing and phasing of elective surgery and emergency department targets.	Nil
General Practice Recognition Appeal Committee	The General Practice Recognition Appeal Committee considers appeals from medical practitioners who have been refused re-inclusion on the Vocational Register by the General Practice Recognition Eligibility Committee or who have been removed from the Vocational Register.	<i>Health Insurance (Vocational Registration of General Practitioners) Regulations 1989</i>
General Practice Recognition Eligibility Committee	The General Practice Recognition Eligibility Committee considers applications from medical practitioners requesting re-inclusion on the Vocational Register and assesses practitioners eligibility according to the criteria defined in the relevant Regulations. It also considers whether practitioners continue to be eligible to remain on the Vocational Register through the compliance with the predominantly in general practice and minimum mandatory professional development requirements.	<i>Health Insurance (Vocational Registration of General Practitioners) Regulations 1989</i>

Health and Hospitals Fund Advisory Board	The Health and Hospitals Fund (HHF) Advisory Board advise the Minister for Health on whether proposals for funding through the HHF satisfy the HHF Evaluation Criteria, having regard to guidelines issued by the Minister.	<i>Nation Building Funds Act 2008</i>
Healthdirect Australia Board	Healthdirect Australia was established, and is jointly funded, by the Australian Government and the governments of the Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales, the Northern Territory, South Australia, Tasmania and Western Australia to deliver the free 24-hour telephone health triage, information and advice service. Healthdirect Australia accounts to its shareholders through several governance structures, including an independent Board of Directors. Directors' appointments to the Board must be approved by all shareholder Ministers. The Board is responsible for the performance of Healthdirect Australia and the services it provides.	<i>Company Constitution</i>
Hearing Services Consultative Committee	The Hearing Services Consultative Committee provides advice to the Minister for Ageing on the national provision of hearing services and emerging issues of concern.	Nil - Term of Reference Only
Medical Services Advisory Committee	The Medical Services Advisory Committee advises the Minister for Health on whether new medical services should be publicly funded.	Nil - Term of Reference Only
Medical Training Review Panel	The Medical Training Review Panel (MTRP) was established under the Health Insurance Act 1973 to look at the demand for and supply of medical training opportunities and to monitor the implementation of particular measures in the Health Insurance Amendment Act (No 2) 1996. These measures require medical practitioners to complete a recognised postgraduate medical training program to be eligible to provide services that attract Medicare benefits. The Panel prepares an annual report to the Minister, which is tabled in Parliament.	<i>Health Insurance Act 1973</i>
Medicare Participation Review Committee	MPPRCs are independent statutory committees established on a case by case basis to make independent determinations of whether a practitioner, or where relevant a person, should maintain the right to participate in Medicare.	<i>Health Insurance Act 1973</i>
Ministerial Advisory Committee on Blood Borne Viruses and Sexually Transmissible Infections	The Ministerial Advisory Committee on Blood Borne Viruses & Sexually Transmissible Infections provides independent and expert advice to the Minister for Health on Blood Borne Viruses & Sexually Transmissible Infections.	Nil
National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Equality Council	The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Equality Council (NATSHEC) provides national leadership in responding to the Australian Government's commitment to Closing the gap on a range of health-related areas where Indigenous Australians experience disadvantage. NATSHEC also advises the Minister for Health on the achievement of equitable and sustainable health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.	Nil - Term of Reference only
National Lead Clinicians Group	The National Lead Clinicians Group provide advice to the Minister for Health on clinical matters and to share information with local Lead Clinicians Groups.	Nil
National Pathology Accreditation Advisory Council	The National Pathology Accreditation Advisory Council advises the Commonwealth, state and territory health ministers on matters relating to the accreditation of pathology laboratories.	<i>Constitution of the National Pathology Accreditation Advisory Council Order No. 1 of 1997</i>

National Prescribing Service MedicineWise (NPS)	NPS is an independent public company operating within the framework of the <i>National Medicines Policy (NMP)</i> . NPS was formed in 1998, is funded by the Department of Health and includes members from government and peak medical, pharmacy, consumer, nursing, pharmaceutical industry and hospital organisations.	<i>National Medicines Policy</i>
PCEHR (Personally Controlled Electronic Health Records) Independent Advisory Council	The PCEHR Act established the PCEHR Independent Advisory Council (PCEHR IAC) to advise on the operation and participation in the PCEHR system, clinical, privacy and security matters relating to PCEHR system operations. The PCEHR IAC meets at least four times per year.	<i>Personally Controlled Electronic Health Records Act 2012</i>
PCEHR Jurisdictional Advisory Committee	The PCEHR Act established the PCEHR Jurisdictional Advisory Committee (PCEHR JAC) to advise the System Operator on matters relating to the interests of the Commonwealth, States and Territories in the PCEHR system. The PCEHR JAC meets at least four times per year, or more frequently as agreed between the System Operator and the Chair.	<i>Personally Controlled Electronic Health Records Act 2012</i>
Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee	S100A of the National Health Act 1953 establishes the Committee as a Portfolio Body (Statutory Committee) recognised in legislation. The Committee is to consist of the Chairperson and at least 11, but not more than 17, other members. Members forming at least 2/3 of the total membership are to be selected from consumers, health economists, practising community pharmacists, general practitioners, clinical pharmacologists, specialists, with at least one member selected from each category. The remaining members (if any) are to be persons whom the Minister is satisfied have qualifications or experience in a field relevant to the functions of the Committee and that would enable them to contribute meaningfully to the deliberations of the Committee. The Chairperson is a member of the Committee and holds office on a full time basis. The other members of the Committee hold office on a part time basis.	<i>National Health Act 1953</i>
Pharmaceutical Benefits Pricing Authority	The Pharmaceutical Benefits Pricing Authority (PBPA) is an independent non-statutory body established by the Minister for Health. It makes recommendations to the Minister on prices for new brands of pharmaceutical items that have been recommended for listing on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS), and for new vaccines recommended for inclusion on the National Immunisation Program, by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC). The PBPA may also recommend revised prices where uses of drugs are extended or changed.	Nil
Pharmaceutical Benefits Remuneration Tribunal	The Pharmaceutical Benefits Remuneration Tribunal make determinations to give effect to the terms of agreement between the government and the Pharmacy Guild of Australia in relation to the remuneration that is to be paid to pharmacists for dispensing pharmaceutical benefits and to perform other functions required by that agreement.	<i>National Health Act 1953</i>
Professional Services Review - Determining Authority	The Determining Authority comprises a permanent Chair (medical practitioner), a permanent lay person and a member who represents the profession of the practitioner being reviewed. The Minister for Health appoints the Chair and members after consultation with the AMA and other relevant professional bodies under section 106ZPB of the Act.	<i>Health Insurance Act 1973</i>
Professional Services Review Panel	The PSR Panel comprises medical and other health care practitioners, who are appointed by the Minister for Health after consultation with the AMA and other relevant professional bodies to sit on peer review Committees.	<i>Health Insurance Act 1974</i>

Programs Reference Group	The Programs Reference Group advises the Minister for Health and the Agreement Consultative Committee, when such advice is requested, on the policy dimensions of new and continuing Programs under the Fifth Community Pharmacy Agreement.	<i>Fifth Community Pharmacy Agreement</i>
Prostheses List Advisory Committee	The Prostheses List Advisory Committee advises the Minister for Health on prostheses and their appropriate benefits in the Prostheses List.	Nil
Therapeutic Goods Committee	The Therapeutic Goods Committee advises the Minister for Health on the adoption of standards for therapeutic goods, matters relating to standards for therapeutic goods, including requirements for labelling and packaging and standards for manufacture of therapeutic goods, and matters relating to medical device standards and conformity assessment standards.	<i>Therapeutic Goods Regulations 1990</i>

## Health Portfolio Agencies

Body	Description	Legislation
Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care	The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC) lead and coordinate national improvements in safety and quality in health care across Australia. They have a number of programs, publications and resources to support healthcare professionals, healthcare organisations and healthcare policy makers, working with patients and carers, to deliver safe and quality health care across Australia. The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC) Board is the governing body of ACSQHC. The board reports to the Standing Council on Health (SCoH) and works with the Inter-Jurisdictional Committee, which is made up of senior Safety and Quality Managers from the Commonwealth Department of Health, and each State and Territory Department of Health.	<i>National Health Reform Act 2011</i>
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare	The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare Board is responsible for the performance of the authority and its reporting to the nation on the state of its health and the provision of welfare related information and statistics.	<i>Australian Institute of Health and Welfare Act 1987</i>
Australian National Preventive Health Agency	The Australian National Preventive Health Agency is committed to improving health outcomes for all Australians. In partnership with the Commonwealth and the state and territory governments, the Agency is driving the national capacity for change and innovation around preventive health policies and programs.	<i>Australian National Preventive Health Agency Act 2010</i>
Australian Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation Authority	The Authority's role is to establish - in partnership with states, territories, clinicians, consumers and the community - a nationally coordinated approach to organ and tissue donation for transplantation. The Authority is also responsible for administering funds to non-government organisations to provide essential associated services, aligned to its purpose.	<i>Australian Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation Authority Act 2008</i>
Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency	The Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) is a Federal Government agency charged with responsibility for protecting the health and safety of people, and the environment, from the harmful effects of ionising and non ionising radiation.	<i>Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency Act 1998</i>
Australian Sports Anti Doping Authority	The Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA) Advisory Group acts as a consultative forum for ASADA's CEO on matters relating to deterring, detecting and enforcing doping issues in sport.	<i>ASADA Act and the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority Regulations 2006 (ASADA Regulations)</i>
Australian Sports Commission	The Australian Sports Commission Board is responsible for the performance of the Australian Sports Commission and its coordination of the Government's commitment and contribution to the sports industry.	<i>Australian Sports Commission Act 1989</i>
Australian Sports Foundation	The Australian Sports Foundation Board is responsible for the performance of the Company and its assistance to eligible organisations to raise funds for the development of Australian sport.	<i>Australian Sports Foundation Articles of Association</i>
Cancer Australia	Cancer Australia was established by the Australian Government in 2006 to benefit all Australians affected by cancer, and their families and carers. Cancer Australia works to reduce the impact of cancer and improve the well-being of those diagnosed by ensuring that evidence informs cancer prevention, screening, diagnosis, treatment and supportive care.	<i>Cancer Australia Act 2006</i>

Food Standards Australia New Zealand	The Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) Board is responsible for the performance of FSANZ and its changes to the Food Standards Code.	<i>Food Standards Australia New Zealand Act 1991</i>
Gene Technology Regulator	The Office of the Gene Technology Regulator has been established within the Australian Government Department of Health to provide administrative support to the Gene Technology Regulator in the performance of his functions under the Gene Technology Act 2000.	<i>Gene Technology Act 2000</i>
General Practice Education and Training Limited	Australian General Practice Training incorporates two Australian Government-funded general practice education and training programs, the Australian General Practice Training program, which provides vocational training for medical practitioners wishing to specialise in general practice and the Prevocational General Practice Placements program, which provides learning experiences for prevocational doctors.	Company Constitution
Health Workforce Australia	Health Workforce Australia delivers change, collaboration and innovation to build a sustainable health workforce that meets the healthcare needs of all Australians.	<i>Health Workforce Australia Act 2009</i>
Independent Hospital Pricing Authority	The Independent Hospital Pricing Authority provides independent and transparent advice in relation to funding for public hospitals by determining the national efficient price for health care services provided by public hospitals and publishing this and other information in a report each year.	<i>National Health Reform Amendment (Independent Hospital Pricing Authority) Act 2011</i>
National Blood Authority	The National Blood Authority (NBA) is an Australian Government statutory agency, established under the National Blood Authority Act 2003 to improve and enhance the management of the Australian blood and plasma product sector at a national level. The NBA represents the interests of the Australian, state and territory governments, and sits within the Australian Government's Health portfolio.	<i>National Blood Authority Act 2003</i>
National Health and Medical Research Council	The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) is Australia's peak body for supporting health and medical research; for developing health advice for the Australian community, health professionals and governments; and for providing advice on ethical behaviour in health care and in the conduct of health and medical research.	<i>National Health and Medical Research Council Act 1992</i>
National Health Funding Body	The function of the National Health Funding Body (NHFB) is to assist the Administrator in performing his or her functions under Commonwealth and state and territory legislation. The National Health Funding Body is established as an independent statutory authority under the Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997.	<i>Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997, National Health Reform Act 2011</i>
National Health Funding Pool Administrator	The role of the Administrator, with support from the National Health Funding Body, is to administer the National Health Funding Pool according to the National Health Reform Agreement, to oversee payments into and out of the state pool account for each state and territory, and to report on various funding and service delivery matters.	<i>National Health Reform Amendment (Administrator and National Funding Body) Act 2012</i>
National Health Performance Authority	The National Health Performance Authority's main role is to report on the performance of the health system at the local level, including trends over time.	<i>National Health Reform Act 2011</i>
National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme	Our mission is the notification and assessment of industrial chemicals for the protection of human health and the environment through scientific excellence and regulatory efficiency to deliver the safe and sustainable use of chemicals.	<i>Industrial Chemicals (Notification &amp; Assessment) Act 1989</i>



National Mental Health Commission	The Commission is responsible for developing the National Report Card on Mental Health and Suicide Prevention to allow the government to monitor whether services are working effectively to deliver lasting outcomes for people with mental illness.	Nil- Executive Agency
Private Health Insurance Administration Council	The Private Health Insurance Administration Council Board is responsible for the performance of the Council and its prudential regulation of Australia's private health insurance industry.	<i>Private Health Insurance Act 2007</i>
Private Health Insurance Ombudsman	The Private Health Insurance Ombudsman (PHIO) provides an independent service to help consumers with health insurance problems and enquiries. The Ombudsman can deal with complaints from health fund members, health funds, private hospitals or medical practitioners. Complaints must be about a health insurance arrangement.	<i>Private Health Insurance Act 2007</i>
Professional Services Review	The PSR Agency is a small Commonwealth Agency in the health portfolio. The Agency exists to provide administration and support services to the Director of PSR, PSR peer review Committees and the Determining Authority in performing their legislated functions under the Health Insurance Act 1973.	<i>Health Insurance Act 1973</i>