

IN CONFIDENCE

NURSING AND MIDWIFERY BOARD OF AUSTRALIA

Meeting Number 9

Wednesday 23 June 2010, from 6pm to 8pm and

Thursday 24 June 2010, from 8:30am to 2:30pm

Hilton Melbourne Airport, Melbourne, Victoria

Decisions and actions arising

**Members present on Wednesday, 23 June 2010**

Anne Copeland (Chair), Gillie Anderson (via teleconference), Lynette Cusack, Denise Fassett, Lynne Geri, Louise Horgan, Mary Kirk, Christine Murphy (via teleconference until 6.20pm and present in meeting room from 6.30pm), Heather Sjoberg and Angela Brannelly

**In attendance on Wednesday, 23 June 2010**

Anne Morrison, Executive Officer

**Apologies for Wednesday, 23 June 2010**

Margaret Winn, Mary Chiarella

**Members present on Thursday, 24 June 2010**

Anne Copeland (Chair), Lynette Cusack, Denise Fassett, Lynne Geri, Louise Horgan, Mary Kirk, Christine Murphy, Heather Sjoberg, Margaret Winn and Angela Brannelly

**In attendance on Thursday, 24 June 2010**

Anne Morrison, Executive Officer

Kathleen Almond, Executive Assistant (Observer)

Martin Fletcher, Chief Executive Officer, AHPRA (Agenda items 1.3 and 1.4)

John Ilott, Director Operations, AHPRA (Agenda items 5.1 and 5.2)

Chris Robertson, Director, Board Services (Agenda items 1.3 and 1.4)

**Apologies for Thursday, 24 June 2010**

Gillie Anderson, Mary Chiarella

**1. Welcome and general overview matters**

**Item 1.1 Disclosure of any conflicts of interest in relation to agenda items**

Members:

1. in accordance with Section 8(1) of Schedule 4 of the National Law, declared possible conflicts of interest in relation to matters to be considered at this meeting
2. discussed any declarations made at (1) in the terms prescribed in Section 8(3) and (4)
3. noted that in relation to Item 3.5, Chris Murphy and Lynne Geri declared a conflict of interest, did not take part in the discussions and absented themselves from the room.
4. noted that in relation to Item 3.6, Chris Murphy and Lynne Geri declared a conflict of interest, did not take part in the discussions and remained in the room.
5. noted that in relation to Item 5.3, Louise Horgan, declared a conflict of interest, remained in the room and participated in the discussion
6. noted that in relation to Item 5.4, Margaret Winn, declared a conflict of interest, remained in the room and did not participate in the discussion.

**Item 1.2 Record of decisions and actions arising from last meeting**

Members:

1. requested that in future the 'Decisions and actions arising' record both the name as well as a person's position title
2. amended Item 1.1, point 6 to record that Louise Horgan had also formally resigned as Deputy Director of the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council
3. amended Item 1.6.1, point 2 to record the position of Dominique Saunders as Legal Counsel, AHPRA
4. amended Item 1.6.1, point 3 by adding the words 'if requested' to the end of the sentence
5. amended Item 6.2.1, point 4 to read: *agreed that the five potential applicants who have completed their studies but not submitted an application for endorsement, may wish to apply under the new assessment framework for Nurse Practitioners currently being developed*
6. amended Item 6.4, point 1 by noting the date for the rescheduled WPSEAR meeting is 20-22 October 2010 and not 20-22 September 2010 as recorded

7. amended Item 6.5, to record that Angela Brannelly did not attend the IT presentation.

*Moved: Louise Horgan*

*Seconded: Mary Kirk*

*ACTION: EO*

### **Item 1.3 Implementation update**

Members:

1. noted the matters reported in the paper
2. noted the verbal implementation update provided by the CEO, AHPRA
3. noted that Tasmania is now in the National Scheme and still awaiting SA and WA. WA now working on a fallback plan should they not be in the scheme by 1 July 2010
4. noted the provisions for privacy ombudsman and FOI are being addressed through interim arrangements which are now in place for External Reviews through the appointment of Dianne Sisley for up to 12 months
5. noted that governments becoming increasingly interested in fee setting to the extent that there may be a view from government of a need for a fee setting policy to inform future fee setting.
6. noted that the Melbourne office server has been moved and now up and running with the office move scheduled for Monday 28 June 2010. Fits out for IT now complete in Qld, SA, TAS and ACT
7. expressed concerns at ongoing issues in relation to accessing agenda items on Docsys and the lack of timeliness of receiving some agenda items
8. noted that the Queensland Nurses Union (QNU) and Australian Nursing Federation (ANF) had raised concerned about the Registration Standard for Professionals Indemnity Insurance. This matter is discussed further under item 6.2.2.

*ACTION: NIL*

### **Item 1.4 Progress against work-plan**

Members noted:

1. the report on progress against the key deliverables
2. the report on progress against work-plan.

*ACTION: NIL*

#### **1.4.1 Draft Work plan and meeting schedule 2010-11 (tabled)**

This matter was considered under Item 1.6.1.

**Item 1.5 Record of Decisions of Chairs of National Boards**

Members noted the matters reported in this paper.

*ACTION: NIL*

**Item 1.6 Reports**

**1.6.1 Chairs report**

Members:

1. noted the report of the Chair on activities since the May 2010 meeting
2. noted that meetings of Board Chairs are now occurring weekly and that the report of these meetings was discussed at Item 1.5
3. noted that ANMC hosted a dinner on 15 June 2010 at which the Professional Practice Framework was handed over to NMBA
4. noted the new Chair and members of the ANMC Board
5. noted that the recruitment process for the new ANMC CEO continues and that the position has been readvertised
6. noted that the Nurses Board of Tasmania had released Catherine Entriken to work on forms for two days and that significant progress had been made as a result of this assistance
7. agreed to the draft workplan and meeting schedule tabled at the meeting
8. noted that if any current member of a state or territory NMRA did not wish to transition to a state or territory board, then that member would be required to resign to the relevant minister
9. noted that Gabrielle O'Brien had agreed to facilitate planning day and that the Chair and the EO would work together with the facilitator on the agenda for the day. The chair acknowledged the manner in which facilitator was chosen and addressed the meeting.

Members noted that in relation to the nursing and midwifery accreditation standards that:

1. on 31 May 2010, the Chair met with the EO to discuss the expected request for a submission on the accreditation standards from Ministerial Council and that Eithne Irving was drafting the response for NMBA
2. on 8 June 2010, correspondence was received from Minister Hill seeking urgent advice from NMBA by 15 June 2010 in relation to the registered nurse education provider standard; qualification standards for enrolled nurses; and the duration of postgraduate midwifery courses
3. on 15 June 2010, the NMBA response on accreditation standards was forwarded to Minister Hill

4. on 16 June 2010, further correspondences was sent from NMBA to Minister Hill advising that the Chair would be requesting NMBA members at its meeting of 24 June 2010 to defer implementation of the standard for 18 month postgraduate midwifery courses
5. on 17 June 2010, correspondence was received from Minister John Hill which:
  - i. requested NMBA to defer implementations of the accrediting standard in relation to university based education for bachelor nursing programs until such time as agreement can be reached with ministers on a standards that better aligns with national higher education policy
  - ii. requested NMBA to defer the transition to Diploma entry requirement for enrolled nurses until 2014 and that it only apply to new graduates from this date
  - iii. acknowledged that the NMBA at its meeting of 24 June 2010 will be asked to defer the accreditation standards for postgraduate midwifery courses
  - iv. requested a response on the position of NMBA on these matters by 25 June 2010.

Members:

1. confirmed that the Board had based its decision on strong evidence that nursing education standards positively influence patient safety and quality of care outcomes
2. agreed to draft a letter and to respond by 25 June 2010
3. agreed that a directive be avoided and that a standard is required from 1 July 2010
4. noted that the Australian College of Midwives is reluctantly prepared to accept change on the understanding that the course content does not change
5. agreed that the Board is committed a robust and comprehensive review process as would be expected of all professions.
6. agreed that the Board is committed to nursing and midwifery education standards which are consistent with other health professions
7. noted that nursing is the only profession being asked to consider the review of the accreditation
8. agreed that Holmesglen TAFE and Avondale College would be grandfathered into the new scheme
9. agreed to seek a response from Ministers by 30 June 2010.

*Moved: Chris Murphy*

*Seconded: Louise Horgan*

*ACTION: Chair/EO*

### **1.6.2 Executive Officer report**

Members:

1. noted the report of the Executive Officer.
2. noted the activities of the Executive Officer since the May NMBA meeting.

### **1.6.3 Policy Working Group**

Members:

1. noted the verbal report provided by the Executive Officer, as well as the decisions and actions arising from the Policy Working Group meeting held on 10 June 2010
2. noted that the *Eligible Midwife Guidelines and Assessment Framework Guidelines and Assessment Framework For The Recognition and Endorsement of Eligible Midwives* has now been approved by Ministerial Council
3. noted that the Policy Working Group had considered the final draft and consultation feedback on the *Guidelines for Education Requirements for Eligible Midwives and Endorsement for Scheduled Medicines for Eligible Midwives* prior to the documents being considered by the Accreditation Working Group
4. agreed that Amanda Adrian be contracted to commence work on the NMBA Audit Policy
5. noted that correspondence has been sent to the Council of Deans of Nursing and Midwifery (Australia & New Zealand) (CDNM) inviting input on a proposed information sheet and FAQs to be developed on student registration for nurses and midwives
6. noted that a significant number of enquiries are being received seeking clarification in relation to the English Language Skills Registration Standard
7. agreed that this issue be considered by the Policy Working Group with a view to determining what clarification is required to assist with the implementation of the standard.

*Moved: Angela Brannelly*

*Seconded: Louise Horgan*

*ACTION: Policy Working Group/EO*

### **1.6.4 Accreditation Working Group**

Members:

1. noted the verbal report provided by Louise Horgan, Chair, Accreditation Working Group, as well as the decisions and actions arising from the Accreditation Working Group meeting held on 18 June 2010

2. agreed that a formal evaluation be undertaken of the existing pathways for undergraduate registered nurse students to gain enrolment during their program
3. agreed that the evaluation commence in July 2011 so as to allow time for implementation of any recommendations before the end of the two year period granted for current approved programs
4. agreed that no further, similar type programs would be approved until the evaluation is complete
5. noted the Accreditation Working Group's acknowledgment of the amendments made by the Policy Working Group to the *Guidelines for Education Requirements for Eligible Midwives and Endorsement for Scheduled Medicines for Eligible Midwives*.

*Moved: Mary Kirk*

*Seconded: Lynette Cusack*

*ACTION: EO*

### **1.6.5 Finance and Governance Working Group**

No activities to report.

## **2. Transition matters**

### **Item 2.1 Final registration transition plan**

Members:

1. noted the tabled draft Registration Transition Plan prepared pursuant to section 277 of the National Law
2. noted the approach taken to de-duplication of registration records for those nurses and midwives who hold registration in more than one State or Territory
3. noted the approach being taken to transition of conditions and undertakings and that checking of conditions and advising affected registrants will not occur until post 1 July
4. noted that Schedule 2 is yet to be finalised pending incorporation of updated data from Boards, and analysis of Part 2 responses to the April mailout, to be completed prior to 30 June
5. approved the revised Registration Migration Matrix at Schedule,1 noting the changes made since the March 2010 version
6. noted that in Attachment A, under the heading *Definitions*, the term "Registrant" should also include "enrolled nurse"
7. noted that cleansing and publications of conditions would not occur until post 1 July 2010
8. approved a delegation to the Chair to sign off the final Registration Transition Plan pursuant to section 277 of the National Law, prior to 1 July.



*Moved: Louise Horgan*

*Seconded: Lynne Geri*

*ACTION: Chair*

## **Item 2.2 Open cases and legal issues**

Members:

1. noted the summary of work to date on open cases
2. requested that clarification be obtained regarding why the Agency Management Committee might be involved, what the limited cases might be and where the legislative authority is for such involvement
3. requested that clarification be obtained regarding who the “we” is referred to under the section titled *Governance and clarity of roles*
4. requested that a flowchart be developed to clarify the processes as well as the MOU between the Board and Health Complaints Commissioners
5. agreed to approve the outlined strategies for ensuring through put and reporting of open cases, subject to clarification of points 3 and 4 above.

*Moved: Louise Horgan*

*Seconded: Angela Brannelly*

*ACTION: Chair/EO*

## **Item 2.3 Operation readiness and management of transitional issues**

Members:

1. did not agree to recommendation 1 in the briefing paper which referred to Medical Boards
2. endorsed the approach being established to process incomplete applications for registration which have been received prior to 30 June 2010
3. agreed to accept any application fee received with incomplete / undecided applications transitioning under the National Law without the need for any ‘top up’ or refund
4. agreed that the ‘late fee’ for applications received in the initial grace period to 31 July 2010 be waived
5. noted that a model for verification of Australian qualifications is being developed for Board consideration
6. noted that internationally qualified applicants will be required to make a declaration in regard to any criminal charges/convictions and will undergo a criminal history screen through CRIMTRACK.

*Moved: Angela Brannelly*

*Seconded: Mary Kirk*



*ACTION: AHPRA*

**Item 2.4 Establishment of delegated decision making bodies – State and Territory Boards: Terms of Reference and Delegations**

Members:

1. noted that the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency ('AHPRA') had requested that Boards finalise Terms of Reference (TOR) for Board committees pending signing of formal Instruments of Delegation
2. agreed to establish one Committee of the Board to operate within each State and Territory Board (excluding NSW), titled the Immediate Action Committee
3. noted that funds would be available for this committee as there is to be no accreditation committee
4. agreed to the proposed TOR for the Immediate Action Committee
5. agreed that the membership of the Immediate Action Committee will be determined by the Chair of the relevant State or Territory Board who selects three members, as per the Terms of Reference, from the State Board, as and when it is necessary to convene an Immediate Action Committee
6. agreed to the proposed TOR for the State and Territory Boards subject to required clarification on its purpose
7. agreed to the proposed TOR for the Registration Committee
8. agreed to the proposed TOR for the Notification Committee
9. agreed that meetings may be held by videoconference as well as teleconference and face to face
10. noted that the Board was looking forward to confirmation of the process for notifications in NSW.

*Moved: Angela Brannelly*

*Seconded: Louise Horgan*

*ACTION: EO/AHPRA*

**Item 2.5 State and Territory Board Membership**

Members:

1. noted the indicative list of State and Territory Board members and that members who have either indicated (or not responded) that they will not continue, must resign in accordance with the relevant State and Territory legislation;
2. noted that there were inaccuracies in the lists which did not in some cases identify the role of members on some of the Boards
3. noted advice that state governments are confirming who is remaining on Boards

4. noted that whilst its preference is for a collaborative process whereby State and Territory Boards select a Chair, NMBA confirms prior to the Minister confirming the appointment, clarification is required on the actual agreed process
5. agreed that the Finance and Governance working group would be involved in this process.

*Moved: Chris Murphy*

*Seconded: Denise Fassett*

*ACTION: Chair/EO*

### **3. Registration matters**

#### **Item 3.1 Advertising Guidelines**

Members:

1. considered the feedback provided in response to the public consultation on the Advertising Guidelines
2. agreed to the revised draft of the Advertising Guidelines tabled at the meeting
3. agreed that the Chair of the Board approve the final version of the Advertising Guidelines in light of any further recommendations made at the June meetings and/or advice from AHPRA's legal advisor.

*Moved: Angela Brannelly*

*Seconded: Lynette Cusack*

*ACTION: Chair/EO*

#### **Item 3.2 Arrangements for overseas trained practitioners**

Members noted:

1. that correspondence had been received from Karen Cook, CEO, ANMC dated 21 June 2010, regarding a number of proposals in relation to the consistent assessment of internationally qualified nurses and midwives
2. that the proposals and recommendations contained in the correspondence will be forwarded to the Policy Working Group for consideration.

*ACTION: EO/Policy Working Group*

#### **Item 3.3 Registration Standards for Eligible Midwives**

Members noted:

1. correspondence dated 7 June 2010, to Minister Hill regarding the proposed Registration Standards for Eligible Midwives
2. that the Guidelines and Assessment Framework for Eligible Midwives document is currently being edited and designed before posting on the NMBA website.

ACTION: EO

**Item 3.4 Guidelines for Education Requirements for Recognition as an Eligible Midwife and Endorsement for Scheduled Medicines**

Members:

1. noted that the draft Guidelines for Education Requirements for Eligible Midwives and Endorsement for Scheduled Medicines for Eligible Midwives were released in May 2010 for consultation
2. noted the collated responses from the consultation on the draft Guidelines
3. noted that the draft Guidelines and collated responses had been considered by both the Policy Working Group and the Accreditation Working Group
4. noted that the Director, Board Services had advised that guidelines did not require to be submitted for Ministerial Approval
5. approved the Guidelines for Education Requirements for Eligible Midwives and Endorsement for Scheduled Medicines for Eligible Midwives
6. noted that the Guidelines would now be forwarded for editing and formatting.

*Moved: Mary Kirk*

*Seconded: Angela Brannelly*

ACTION: EO

**Item 3.5 Nurse Practitioner Alternative Pathway (Victoria)**

*Chris Murphy and Lynne Geri declared a conflict of interest in regard to this item, did not take part in the discussions and absented themselves from the room.*

Members:

1. noted correspondence received from the Nurses Board of Victoria (NBV) dated 12 May 2010 in relation to the NBV approved pathways for Nurse Practitioner endorsement
2. noted the further information received from NBV dated 17 June 2010 regarding nurses currently progressing through the pathway.
3. noted the previous decision of the NMBA at its meeting in May 2010 in relation to the nmbSA Alternative pathway for Nurse practitioners
4. agreed that the Board's response to the request from the NBV would be consistent with that made in response to nmbSA
5. agreed that the 61 applicants who have completed a Master's program, who have, or are in the process of completing an NBV approved medication management unit would be granted Nurse Practitioner endorsement following successful completion of the oral examination before an expert panel

6. agreed that these 61 applicants must complete all aspects of the pathway by 1 December 2012
7. agreed that the five applicants who are required to re-present for oral assessment must do so by the dates indicated on the table provided by the NBV in its correspondence dated 17 June 2010
8. agreed that any costs associated with the assessment of any of these applicants would not be covered by NMBA.

*Moved: Louise Horgan*

*Seconded: Lynette Cusack*

ACTION: EO

**Item 3.6 Proposed process for insertion and removal of categories of Nurse Practitioner endorsement in Victoria**

*Chris Murphy and Lynne Geri declared a conflict of interest in regard to this item, did not take part in the discussions and remained in the room.*

Members:

1. noted the legislative rationale for the notation of category for the purpose of prescribing by nurse practitioners practising in Victoria
2. agreed to the proposed FAQs outlining the process for removal of the notation.

*Moved: Angela Brannelly*

*Seconded: Mary Kirk*

ACTION: EO

**Item 3.7 Proposed process for removal of notation following completion of Board approved medication program - Transitional arrangements for EN administration of medicines**

Members:

1. noted the need for all enrolled nurses (ENs) practising in Australia to undertake the relevant units of study enabling them to administer medicines safely
2. agreed that the approved units of study for administration of medicines in the National Health Training Package (NHTP) are:
  - analyse health information (HLTAP501A)
  - administer and monitor medications in the work environment (HLTEN507A)
3. noted that in some jurisdictions, the completion of non-approved programs enables ENs to administer medicines

4. agreed that those ENs who have undertaken such a 'non-approved' program, will be recognised as able to administer medicines
5. agreed that as from 1 July 2010, only Board approved programs will be recognised
6. agreed that all mother craft nurses (including Division 5 nurses in Victoria) will transition to EN with a condition next to their name which limits their practice to mothercraft nursing only
7. noted the Explanatory Notes and FAQs require further editing and formatting
8. noted that requirement for those ENs who should have a notation on their registration to notify NMBA especially in WA and SA, needs to be highlighted in any covering correspondence
9. considered that communication of this information to ENs should be by both website and individual letter
10. considered that a proforma should be developed to assist ENs in advising AHPRA that they need the notation on their registration
11. noted that historically conditions on registration have been perceived negatively and there is a need to change this culture.

*Moved: Lynne Geri*

*Seconded: Margaret Winn*

*ACTION: EO*

### **Item 3.8 Forms**

Members:

1. noted the actions undertaken in order to progress the development of Forms
2. noted the comments and feedback provided to AHPRA staff in relation to the form design
3. noted that the draft forms have been sent to Board members and any comments are invited
4. expressed its gratitude to Catherine Entriken for her assistance in progressing the form development.

*ACTION: EO*

### **4. Accreditation matters**

#### **Item 4.1 NMBA Response to Ministerial Council re Accreditation Standards and Ministerial Response to Eligible Midwives Proposal (Attachment B)**

Members noted the response from NMBA to the request from Ministerial Council to provide clarification on a number of issues relating to the accreditation standards for nursing and midwifery education.

This matter was discussed in full under Item 1.6.1, Chair's report

*ACTION: NIL*

**Item 4.2 Update on accreditation arrangements (Verbal)**

In relation to the matter of the ANMC Oversight Group, Members:

1. noted the verbal update on the second and third meetings of the Oversight group held on 8 and 22 June 2010
2. noted that the position of CEO had been readvertised and that the advert had been redrafted
3. noted the changes to the ANMC Board
4. noted that the recent meeting with Professor Jill White and Lee Thomas was positive and collaborative
5. noted that there remained concerns about the business Plan which was promised by the end of the week, however, an Accreditation Framework had been provided and discussed
6. agreed that the Framework be forwarded to the Accreditation Working Group for comment and feedback
7. agreed that during the transition period there is a need to communicate with education providers as there are a number of programs waiting to be accredited
8. agreed that in order to manage dissatisfied education providers that an open letter be posted on the NMBA website advising that NMBA is working with ANMC Ltd and aware there are a number of programs awaiting submission to the new ANMC. The existing communiqué is also to be updated
9. noted that the next meeting is scheduled meeting is in three weeks time.

*Moved: Lynette Cusack*

*Seconded: Margaret Winn*

*ACTION: EO/Oversight Group*

**Item 4.3 Approved Programs of Study**

Members:

1. noted that under section 283 of the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009* (the National Law), programs of study providing qualifications for registration transition on 1 July 2010. These approved programs must be published on the Australian Health Practitioners Regulation Agency (AHPRA) website
2. noted that at its meeting of 25 February 2010, it approved a list of programs for the purposes of sections 53, 94, and 95 of the National Law, on the proviso that they are approved on 30 June 2010
3. noted that education providers were invited to provide an updated list for consideration by the NMBA at its meeting in June 2010

4. requested that the title of the pre-registration program conducted by the University of Tasmania be amended to read Bachelor of Nursing and the letters "SNM" be deleted
5. members approved the list of courses including the courses to be advised by NMBNSW.

*Moved: Margaret Winn*

*Seconded: Angela Brannelly*

*ACTION: EO*

## **5. Administrative and financial matters**

### **Item 5.1 09/10 budget report**

Members noted the financial report.

*ACTION: NIL*

### **Item 5.2 Health Profession Agreement**

Members:

1. noted the status of the Health Profession Agreement, in particular the financial schedules
2. noted there had been some drafting amendments arising from previous meeting's feedback
3. noted a number of adjustments to be made e.g. inclusion of the Immediate Action Committee
4. noted that the agreed measures were not actual KPIs against which to measure performance
5. sought clarification on the item 'receiving Board papers' as to whether this is in hard copy or electronic and within 5 days
6. noted that there is no indication that the Board will receive a report on timeframes for registration, waiting times for calls.
7. noted that reporting is the next phase to bring to the Board and a number of format options will be presented e.g. monthly report on finances and activities and quarterly on performance measures
8. noted proposed steps to finalise the Health Profession Agreement.

*ACTION: AHPRA*



**Item 5.3 Future sponsorship decisions**

*Louise Horgan declared a conflict of interest, remained in the room and participated in the discussions.*

Members:

1. noted Louise Horgan's advice that the enquiry about sponsorship did not come to the Board through the Nurses and Midwives Board of Western Australia
2. noted the NMBWA has recently sought clarification on whether funds can continue to be committed to events occurring after 1 July 2010
3. noted that the funds could not continue through the NMRAs as these would no longer exist
4. agreed that the Board would not take over individual State's sponsorship of events
5. noted that NMRAs have historically committed funding to various events on a regular basis such as conferences
6. agreed that the role of Board in funding and supporting scholarship, sponsorships, conferences etc would be considered at July planning day.

*Moved: Margaret Winn*

*Seconded: Denise Fassett*

*ACTION: CHAIR/EO*

**Item 5.4 NSW Fees Recommendations**

*Margaret Winn declared a conflict of interest, remained in the room and did not participate in the discussions.*

Members:

1. noted the principles relating to the calculation of the proposed NSW registration component of national fees
2. approved the NSW fee schedule in 2010~~11~~ as a basis for the Agency to negotiate an agreed schedule with the NSW government.

*Moved: Angela Brannelly*

*Seconded: Denise Fassett*

*ACTION: AHPRA*

**6. Other business**

**Item 6.1 Possible communications following this meeting**

There was no discussion at the meeting but Members agreed to the release of a communiqué to be finalised by the Chair.

*ACTION: CHAIR/EO*

**Item 6.2 Correspondence**

**6.2.1 ANF Victorian Branch re Victorian Nurses Health Program (VNHP)**

*Chris Murphy and Lynne Geri declared a conflict of interest in regard to this item, did not take part in the discussions and absented themselves from the room.*

Members noted:

1. the advice from Martin Fletcher, CEO, AHPRA that under National Law, the VHNP will transition to AHPRA which will become the member on the Board of the VNHP
2. that Martin Fletcher will decide who will be the member on the VNHP Board and that it will not be NMBA
3. that three years funding has been set aside to maintain the program

*ACTION: AHPRA*

**6.2.2 Queensland Nursing Union regarding Professional Indemnity Insurance Registration Standard**

Members noted:

1. that a number of issues have been raised in relation to the PII requirements under the National Scheme
2. the PII Registration Standard's intent is that an individual's employer provides the cover and there is no need for an individual to have a separate policy
3. that the evidence that a nurse or midwife should provide in order to demonstrate suitable cover is not stated
4. that QNU position is that the NMBA PII Standard is not specific enough to be defensible
5. the letter from QNU seeking urgent clarification on these issues
6. that Crown law advice has been obtained in Queensland and the view is that Queensland Health's cover meets the Standards
7. that QNU has provided a suggested amendment and AHPRA is working on general guidance to put on the website
8. that a teleconference is scheduled for Friday, 25 June 2010 to be attended by Chris Robertson, Dominique Saunders, Anne Morrison and QNU to discuss the issue.

*ACTION: AHPRA/EO*

**7. Next meeting**

Members agreed that the next meeting would be held on 29 July 2010 at 09:00 hrs.

Meeting closed 14.30 hrs