

Agency Management Committee

Meeting Number 24

12 April 2011

AHPRA, Level 8, 121 King William Street, Adelaide

Final decisions and actions arising

Members present

Mr Peter Allen

Mr Michael Gorton

Professor Genevieve Gray

Professor Con Michael

Professor Merrilyn Walton

In attendance

Mr Martin Fletcher - Chief Executive Officer

Mr John Ilott – Director, Operations

Mr Jim O’Dempsey - National Director, Business Improvement and Innovation

Mr Chris Robertson – Director, National Board Services

Ms Jancy McHugh – Interim State Manager, South Australia

Ms Amanda Robinson - Executive Assistant to Chief Executive Officer, Minute Secretary

Apology

Ms Dominique Saunders – General Counsel

PART ONE

Item 1: Disclosure of any conflicts of interest in relation to agenda items

In accordance with Section 6(1) of Schedule 2 of the *Health Practitioner Regulation (Administrative Arrangements) National Law Act 2009* (the Act), members declare any possible conflict of interest in relation to agenda items for consideration by the Committee.

Members were advised of a possible conflict of interest with Professor Michael, concerning matters raised in Part Two, Item Three (Legal Update). Professor Michael advised that he would not be present when the Committee determined its position on the matter.

Item 2: Record of previous minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 March 2011 were approved by the Committee as a true record of the meeting with one amendment:

- Additional paragraph in Part 2, Item 3 to reflect the discussion on mandatory reporting in relation to recording of notifications.

ACTION: AHPRA

Item 3: Current Situation

Item 3.1: Update from Chair, CEO and Members

Mr Allen reported:

- The AHPRA Submission to the Senate Inquiry into the administration of health practitioner registration by AHPRA is due by Thursday 14 April 2011.
- Mr Allen, Professor Michael, Mr Fletcher and Mr Ilott attended the official opening of the AHPRA Western Australian Office. Due to the unexpected absence of Minister Hames (due to floods in northern parts of the state), Mr Kim Snowball, Director General, WA Department of Health officially opened the office.
- AHPRA has received a positive response from the Commonwealth and other jurisdictions in relation to providing additional assistance for the start up of the National Scheme. This is being followed up by State and Territory Managers.
- Dr Louise Morauta, has published an article in *The Australian Journal of Public Administration* – *‘Implementing a COAG Reform Using the National Law Model: Australia’s National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for Health Practitioners*. This will be circulated to Management Committee members.

Mr Fletcher reported:

- Mr Fletcher, Mr Richard Mullaly (State Manager, Victoria), Dr Joanna Flynn (Chair, Medical Board of Australia) and Mr Steve Marty (Chair, Pharmacy Board of Australia) met with Mr David Davis, Minister for Health, Victoria to provide an update on the implementation of the National Scheme in Victoria. Minister Davis has agreed to officially open the Victorian State Office on Friday 17 June 2011.
- Mr Fletcher, Mr Robertson and Ms Anne Morrison, (State Manager, Queensland) met with the new Health Minister for Queensland, Hon Geoff Wilson to brief him on the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme.

The Committee noted the updates provided.

ACTION: AHPRA

Item 3.1.1: Management Calendar

Members noted the updated management calendar.

ACTION: Nil

Item 3.2: Action Summary

The Committee considered the April action update noting:

Action Item 1:

- All funds from WA boards have now been received by AHPRA. The government has also met agreed lease costs for the state office building. Other costs associated with the late entry of Western Australia will need to be finalised with AHMAC.
- Reserve funds from the Pharmacy Board of Tasmania are still to be finalised.
- Settlement of the SA board reserves has now been finalised.

ACTION: AHPRA

Item 4: Items for Decision

Item 4.1: AHPRA Submission to Senate Inquiry

Mr Fletcher provided an overview of the AHPRA Submission to Senate Inquiry.

Members discussed and endorsed the submission, noting final amendments which will be made in the light of feedback received.

Members agreed that a final version of the submission will be circulated out of session, prior to being formally submitted.

ACTION: AHPRA

Item 4.2: Accreditation Consultation Paper

Mr Robertson provided an overview of the Accreditation Consultation paper.

Members noted:

- The discussion paper – Shared Understanding of Accreditation Functions - and agreed to provide feedback.
- Proposed modifications to the procedures for development of accreditation standards for consultation. This will need to be approved by the Agency Management Committee once finalised.

Members expressed their interest in ongoing involvement in the work on accreditation and noted the planned joint meeting on 7 June with National Boards, Accreditation Councils and AHPRA.

ACTION: AHPRA

Item 5: Performance Reporting and Risk Management

Item 5.1: Operational Update

The Committee discussed the Operational Update and noted:

- Online access to registration certificates will be available shortly.
- Solid progress in implementing revised call handling arrangement. Further advice will be provided to understand the drivers of call abandonment.
- The AHPRA home page 'reskin' will go live by the end of April.

ACTION: AHPRA

Item 5.2: Update on Business Improvement

Mr O'Dempsey provided the Committee with an update on the portfolio of Business Improvement projects.

Members noted:

- Further advice will be provided on work to complete the specialist register.
- Registration date and number enhancements will now be completed after the next round of Nursing and Midwifery renewals in May 2011.

ACTION: AHPRA

Item 6: Items for Information

Item 6.1: Key Issues from March board meetings

Mr Robertson updated the Committee on key issues arising from the March Board meetings:

- Substantial discussion in relation to approaches to auditing compliance with registration standards. A draft paper will be considered at April board meetings.

- State and Territory and National Committee Board Support – professional officers and their role in the AHPRA environment. Follow up discussion is occurring through the Executive Management Group.
- A draft consultation paper on the definition of practice will be considered in the April meetings.

ACTION: AHPRA

Item 6.1.1: State and Territory Board appointments

Mr Robertson provided a verbal update on the State and Territory Board appointments.

Members noted that the process is progressing well with a large number of existing board members expressing interest in re-appointment. Additional strategies are also being considered to encourage new applications.

ACTION: AHPRA

Item 6.2: Student Registration – Stage One Completion

The Committee noted the successful implementation of Stage One of the Student Registration Project.