

ANNUAL REPORT 2014 - 15



PODIATRY COUNCIL
OF NEW SOUTH WALES

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



*Podiatry Council
of New South Wales*

I am pleased to introduce the 2014/15 report for the Podiatry Council and to give this overview.

In the discharge of its regulatory and legislative functions, the Council is guided by the overriding principle that protection of the health and safety of the public is its paramount consideration. The Council members focus on making sure that registered podiatrists are fit to practise and that podiatry student are fit to have contact with the public.

Over the past year there was an increase of around 30% in complaints. This year there were 17 complaints, compared with 13 complaints last financial year. This report goes into more detail about those matters.

The HPCA provided the Podiatry Council with administrative and technical support to enable it to perform its regulatory and legislative functions. Those effective, efficient and professional services allowed the Council to fulfil its public protection charter, as well as to implement measures to ensure podiatrists practise safely.

During 2014/15 there were some significant changes in the Council's membership. Dr Paul Tinley and Mr Ian Reid completed their appointments as President and Deputy President, respectively, at the end of 2014. Both Paul and Ian served on the Council and its predecessor, the Podiatrists Registration Board of NSW, for nine years.

I would like to thank them both for their unwavering commitment to serving our profession, for their forward-thinking and for discharging their roles and responsibilities on both the Registration Board and the Council in a fair and even-handed manner.

Mr Adam Glascock, Practitioner Member, also completed his three-year term of appointment at the end of June 2015 and I would also like to thank Adam for his hard work during his time on the Council.

Finally, I would like to welcome Ms Kristy Robson, Practitioner Member and Deputy President, and Ms Verona du Toit, Practitioner Member to the Council. They join Mr Ebenezer Banful, our Legal Member.

Members of the Council are looking forward to the challenges ahead in the coming year.

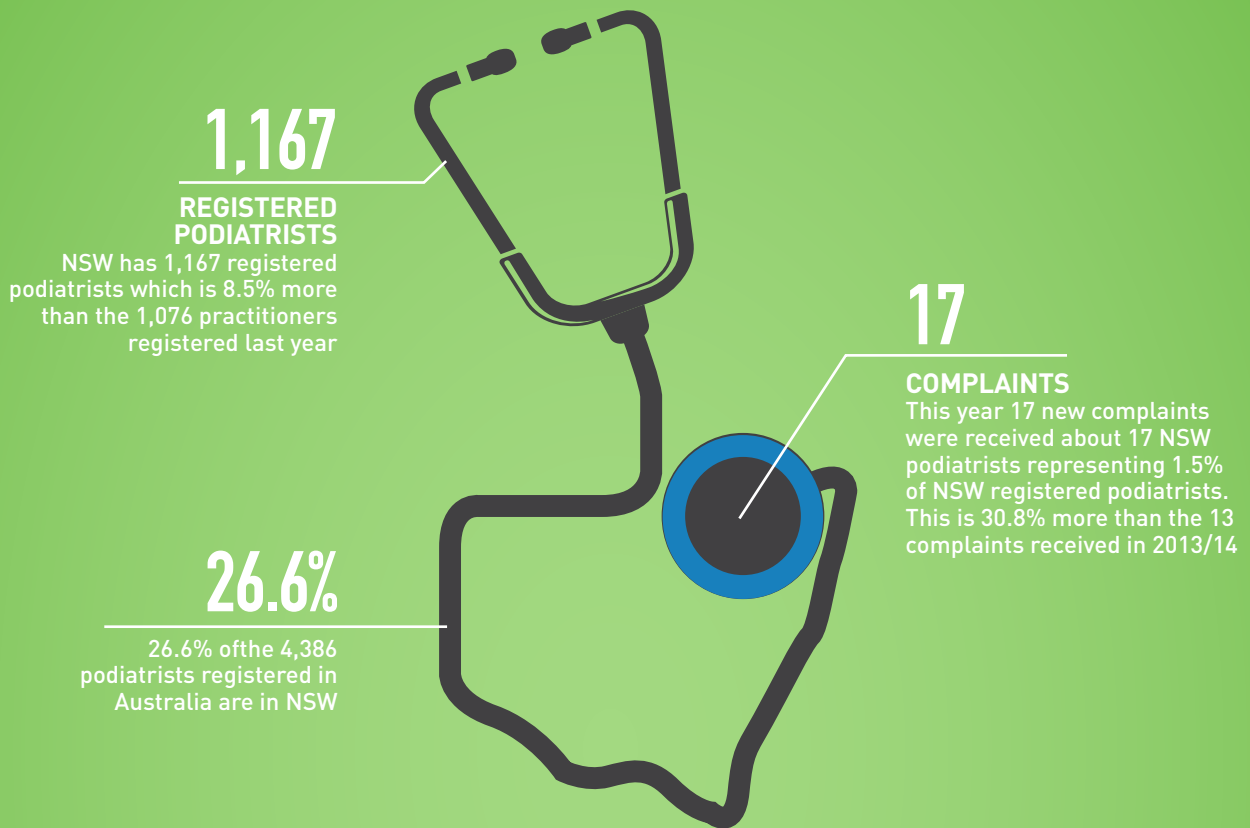
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L Taylor', located below the main text.

(Mr) Luke Taylor

President

Podiatry Council of NSW

REGULATION OF PODIATRISTS IN NSW IN 2014/15 YEAR IN SUMMARY



Regulation of Podiatrists in NSW in 2014/15

Year in summary

NSW has 1,167 registered podiatrists which is 8.5% more than the 1,076 practitioners registered last year and 26.6% of the 4,386 podiatrists registered to practise in Australia.

This year 17 new complaints were received about 17 NSW podiatrists representing 1.5% of NSW registered podiatrists. This is 30.8% more than the 13 complaints received in 2013/14.

Complaints about NSW podiatrists included:

- 5 related to conduct – 29.4%
- 11 related to performance – 64.7%
- 1 related to health/impairment – 5.9%.

No mandatory notifications were received.

Complaints were received from six patients, two relatives of patient or practitioner, four from another agency and one each from an employer, an employee, a friend of patient, Police and other individual.

Complaints management included:

- 1 Tribunal hearing in train
- 3 counselling or interviews
- 2 health assessments.

Thirteen complaints were closed during the year with outcomes including:

- 1 counselling
- 2 referred to other body
- 3 no further action required after further assessment
- 6 discontinued
- 1 withdrawn.

Council Membership

Section 41E of the Law prescribes that there are four members of the Podiatry Council appointed by the Governor.

Members who are registered podiatry practitioners:

- Associate Professor Paul Tinley BSc (Hons) (Pod), PhD – President
(term expired on 31 December 2014)
- Mr Luke Taylor BApp Sci (Pod), Grad Cert (Diab) – President
(term commenced 1 January 2015)
- Mr Ian Reid BApp Sc (Pod), MPod – Deputy President
(term expired on 31 December 2014)
- Ms Kristy Robson MHSc (Ed), Dip HSc (Podiatry) – Deputy President
(term commenced 1 January 2015)
- Mr Adam Glascock BappSc (Pod)

Community member:

- Mr Ebenezer Banful GradDip, LLB(Hons2A) – Legal Member

Attendance at Council Meetings

The Podiatry Council met on 11 occasions. Attendance at the meetings was as follows.

Member	Meetings Attended	Meetings Eligible to Attend
Associate Professor Paul Tinley	6	6
Mr Luke Taylor	5	5
Mr Ian Reid	6	6
Ms Kristy Robson	5	5
Mr Adam Glascock	5	11
Mr Ebenezer Banful	11	11

Executive Officer

The Podiatry Council is supported by Mr Michael Jaques, Executive Officer and Ms Christine Gursen, Assistant Executive Officer, employed by the HPCA.

Committees of Council

Section 41F of the Law provides that the Council may establish committees to assist it with the exercise of its functions. Members of committees need not be Council members. The Podiatry Council did not appoint any committees during the reporting period.

Regulatory Committees and Panels

Part 8 of the Law prescribes the committees and panels that support the Council in undertaking its regulatory activities. They include Assessment Committees, Impaired Registrants Panels and Performance Review Panels.

The Podiatry Council did not establish any of these bodies during the reporting period.

Meetings and Conferences

The Podiatry Council was represented at the following meetings and conferences during the reporting period.

Name	Attendance
Council Presidents' Forum – bi-monthly meetings	Associate Professor Paul Tinley and Mr Luke Taylor
Meeting with the Podiatry Board of Australia	All members
Council Presidents' Forum meeting with the NSW Minister for Health	Mr Ian Reid

Overseas Travel

There was no overseas travel during the reporting period.

Council Communications

The Podiatry Council website is principal medium used for communicating information to podiatrists, podiatry students and the community. The website is updated regularly and includes links to other key bodies in the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme.

The Podiatry Council also regularly distributes electronic newsletters to podiatrists with a principal place of practice in NSW. Further information is available on the Council's website www.hpca.nsw.gov.au →Podiatry Council.

Remuneration

Remuneration for members of the Council is as follows.

President	\$2,336 per annum
Members	\$1,752 per annum

In addition, Council members receive sitting fees of \$448 per day and \$218 per half day for the conduct of Council Inquiries and \$256 per day and \$128 per half day for attendance at committee meetings and other regulatory activities if held on a day other than the monthly Council meeting. Council members are reimbursed for expenses incurred when travelling on official business at Council direction.

Members of panels and tribunals also receive remuneration and reimbursement of expenses.

Financial Management

The Podiatry Council's accounts performance as reported in the Financial Statements is as follows.

Accounts Performance 2014/15	\$
Revenue	228,857
Operating expenditure	175,312
Gain/(loss) on disposal	(495)
Net result	53,050
Net cash reserves (cash and cash equivalents minus current liabilities)	140,081

* Included in the net cash reserves is Education and Research bank account balance of: \$62,452

The Podiatry Council's budget for the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 is as follows.

Budget 2015/16	\$
Operating expenditure	210,439
Revenue	242,480
Net result	32,041

Full financial statements are presented in Part 3 of this report 'Financial Statements for NSW Health Professional Councils'.