

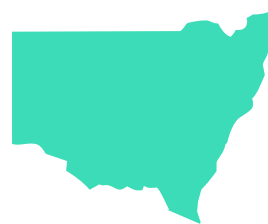


**Occupational
Therapy
Council**
of NSW

Occupational Therapy Council of NSW

Annual Report 2017-18

President's Message



**Occupational
Therapy
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of NSW

I am pleased to present the Occupational Therapy Council's annual report for 2017/18.

The number of registrants for NSW has been progressively increased over the last three years with a significant number of registered occupational therapists in NSW at the end of June 2018.

While notifications to the Council have grown in the 2017/18 financial year, these are still relatively low. We have observed a number of themes relating to the complaints received, with the majority about communications, clinical record keeping and professional boundaries. As public safety remains the priority for the Council, we continue to make sure that all complaints are dealt with respectfully and expeditiously for both the complainants and the practitioners.

As a commitment to maintain the high regulatory standards of the occupational therapy profession for the people of NSW, the Council will continue to work diligently and in partnership with our stakeholders such as the National Board, AHPRA and the Health Care Complaints Commission.

I wish to thank the staff of the Health Professional Councils Authority for their hard work and support during the last year. I must also thank my fellow Council members for their diligence and robust participation in Council business. I would especially like to acknowledge the contributions of Dr Katherine Moore (practitioner member), Ms Angela Petrie (Legal member) and Mr John Peterson (Community member) who are retiring from the Council. They have provided strong wisdom, advice and support for the work that we do.

I look forward to the challenges that the next year will bring. To help meet those challenges will be three new members of Council. I welcome them, the experiences that they will bring and their contributions to the work of the Council.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kim Nguyen', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Mr Kim Nguyen

President

Occupational Therapy Council of New South Wales

Regulation of Occupational Therapists in 2017/18

SNAPSHOT



Practitioner information

5,881

occupational therapists registered in NSW

6.6% more than last year

28% of registered occupational therapists in Australia

21

NSW occupational therapists had complaints made about them

5 more than last year

0.4% of registered occupational therapists in NSW



Complaints received

25

new complaints were received

5 more than last year

3 mandatory notifications were received about 1 practitioner

32% of complaints were about boundary violation (n4) and documentation (4) followed by:

clinical care and communication – 3 complaints each

confidentiality, discrimination and offence – 2 complaints each

32%

of complaints were from patient (n 8) followed by:

employer and relative – 3 complaints each



Complaints managed

11

complaints were managed directly by the Council

8 more than last year

1

assessment was concluded

8 less than last year

3

immediate actions were considered or taken by Council

3 more than last year

0

outcomes for closed complaints involved

cancelled or suspended registration or conditions on practice or counselling or interview



Practitioners monitored

2

cases were being actively monitored at year end

1 conduct

1 performance

0 health

Council Members

Six members sit on the Occupational Therapy Council as prescribed by the National Law.

Registered Occupational Therapy practitioner members:

- Mr Kim Nguyen BAppSc (OT), Grad Dip (Public Health)
- Dr Katherine Moore BAppSc (OT), MAppSc (OT), PhD
- Ms Carolyn Fozzard BAppSc (OT)
- Ms Melinda Hunt BAppSc (OT), LLB (Hons)

Legal member:

- Ms Angela Petrie BPharm, LLM, MLLP

Community members:

- Mr John Peterson BCom(Hons)

The NSW Governor appointed Mr Kim Nguyen as the President and Dr Katherine Moore as the Deputy President of the Occupational Therapy Council.

Executive Officer

Mrs Maricel O'Farrell is the current Executive Officer for the Occupational Therapy Council. Ms Sarah Carroll and Ms Rebecca Greenwood also provided Executive Officer support to Council during the year. Their work is acknowledged with thanks and appreciation. The Executive Officer leads a team that works directly and indirectly with the Council as part of the HPCA Combined Councils Team.

All staff working both directly and indirectly with the Council are employed by the HPCA as an executive agency of the Ministry of Health. Councils cannot employ staff under the National Law.

Council Meeting Attendance

The Occupational Therapy Council met nine times.

Table i: Member attendance at Council meetings, eligibility to attend and term of office

| Member | Meetings Attended | Meetings Eligible to Attend | Date of First Appointment | Current Term of Office |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Mr Kim Nguyen - President | 9 | 9 | 1 July 2012 | 1 Jul 2015 to 30 Jun 2018 |
| Dr Katherine Moore - Deputy President | 8 | 9 | 1 July 2012 | 1 Jul 2015 to 30 Jun 2018 |
| Ms Carolyn Fozzard | 8 | 9 | 1 July 2012 | 1 Jul 2015 to 30 Jun 2018 |
| Ms Melinda Hunt | 9 | 9 | 1 July 2012 | 1 Jul 2015 to 30 Jun 2018 |
| Ms Angela Petrie | 6 | 9 | 1 July 2012 | 1 Jul 2015 to 30 Jun 2018 |
| Mr John Peterson | 8 | 9 | 1 July 2012 | 1 Jul 2015 to 30 Jun 2018 |

Council members are appointed for a term up to three years and may be reappointed up to a maximum of nine years.

Regulatory Committees and Panels

The National Law sets out the committees and panels that support the Council in undertaking its regulatory activities.

Regulatory committees and panels include:

- Assessment Committee
- Impaired Registrants Panels (IRP)
- Performance Review Panels (PRP)

The Council appoints regulatory committees and panels as needed.

The Council acknowledges and thanks the practitioners and lay members who assist with panels and hearings.

Council Committees

Councils may establish committees to assist with Council functions. Committee members are not necessarily Council members.

The Occupational Therapy Council did not appoint any committees during the year.

Meetings and Events

The Occupational Therapy Council was represented at the following meetings and events during the year.

Table ii: Occupational Therapy Council representation at meetings and events

| Name of Meeting / Event | Attended By |
|---|------------------------------------|
| National Board Chairs and NSW Council Presidents joint meeting | Katherine Moore - Deputy President |
| Licensure Enforcement and Regulation (CLEAR) International Congress | Kim Nguyen - President |

Overseas Travel

The Occupational Therapy Council did not incur any overseas travel costs during the year.

Remuneration

Council members received the following remuneration.

| | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| President | \$2,336 per annum |
| Deputy President | \$1,752 per annum |
| Council Members | \$1,752 per annum |

Council members also receive sitting fees for conducting Council Inquiries, attending committee meetings and undertaking other regulatory activities if these are on a day other than the regular Council meeting.

Council members are reimbursed for expenses when travelling on official business at Council direction.

Panel and Tribunal members receive remuneration and reimbursement of expenses related to Council business.

Education and Research Account

The Occupational Therapy Council maintains an Education and Research account. This helps fund activities that promote better understanding of professional standards and compliance, issues that can lead to complaints and how complaints are managed. The account may also be used to fund relevant research activity including both Council specific initiatives and collaborative projects.

There was no Education and Research account expenditure this year.

Financial Management

The Occupational Therapy Council's accounts performance was reported in the Financial Statement as follows.

| Accounts Performance 2017/18 | \$ |
|---|----------------|
| Revenue | 272,149 |
| Operating expenditure | 147,143 |
| Gain / (loss) on disposal | (43) |
| Net result | 124,963 |
| Net cash reserves* (cash and cash equivalents minus current liabilities) | 920,873 |

* Included in the cash reserves is an Education and Research bank account balance of \$46,826.

The Occupational Therapy Council's budget for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 is as follows.

| Budget 2018/19 | \$ |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Revenue | 254,730 |
| Operating expenditure | 247,692 |
| Net result | 7,038 |

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