I am pleased to submit the 2018 Annual Report for the Podiatry Council of New South Wales (Council).

The Annual Report details the complaints activity for the Podiatry Council this year. Whilst numbers remain low, they continue to grow steadily over time. Council welcomed the opportunity to discuss complaints data with practitioners at the NSW Podiatry Conference in May 2018. It was a valuable opportunity to reflect upon issues that have led to notifications and share that knowledge so we as a profession can improve. We look forward to continuing this conversation with practitioners, professional associations, education providers and co-regulators alike.

The work of Council relies on the support of the HPCA staff. The HPCA has undergone significant organisational changes in the last year, however Council has benefited particularly from the leadership of Ms Christine Gursen during this transition. We look forward to continuing to work with the support of HPCA in 2018/19.

I would like to thank my colleagues on the Council, Dr Kristy Robson (Deputy President), Ms Verona du Toit (practitioner member) and Mr Ebenezer Banful (legal member) for their contributions. As a small Council, the work is spread amongst a small number of hands, so their contributions are very significant. I welcome the recent reappointment of Ms du Toit and Mr Banful to continue their work with Council.

The Podiatry Council looks forward to continuing its work alongside our regulatory partners at the Health Care Complaints Commission, the Podiatry Board of Australia, HPCA and AHPRA over the coming year.

Mr Luke Taylor
President
Podiatry Council of New South Wales
**SNAPSHOT**

**Practitioner information**

- 1,447 podiatrists registered in NSW
  - 5.6% more than last year
  - 28.1% of registered podiatrists in Australia

- 26 NSW podiatrists had complaints made about them
  - 10 more than last year
  - 1.8% of registered podiatrists in NSW

**Complaints received**

- 27 new complaints were received
  - 8 more than last year
  - 2 complaints were mandatory notifications
  - 40.7% of complaints were about boundary violation (n 11) followed by:
    - National Law breach and National Law offence – 3 complaints each and
    - behaviour, billing, health impairment and hygiene – 2 complaints each

- 33.3% of complaints were from patient (n 9) followed by:
  - relative – 5 complaints
  - member of the public and other practitioner – 3 complaints each

**Complaints managed**

- 9 complaints were managed directly by the Council
  - 1 more than last year

- 2 assessments and hearings were concluded
  - 2 less than last year

- 1 immediate action was considered or taken by Council
  - Same as last year

**Practitioners monitored**

- 1 case was being actively monitored at year end
  - 0 conduct
  - 1 performance
  - 0 health
Council Members

Four members sit on the Podiatry Council as prescribed by the National Law.

Registered podiatry practitioner members:
- Mr Luke Taylor BApp Sci (Pod), Grad Cert (Diabetes)
- Dr Kristy Robson PhD, MHScl(Education), DipHSc (Podiatry)
- Ms Verona du Toit MAppSc (Ex&SpSc), AssDipPod, BTeach (AdVocEd)

Legal member:
- Mr Ebenezer Banful BA (Hons), MA, LLB (Hons), GDLP

The NSW Governor appointed Mr Luke Taylor as the President and Dr Kristy Robson as the Deputy President of the Podiatry Council.

Executive Officer

Ms Asha Mears is the current Executive Officer for the Podiatry Council. Mr Michael Jaques was the previous Executive Officer. Ms Farina Bains and Mrs Christine Gursen 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 Podiatry Council met 11 times.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Meetings Attended</th>
<th>Meetings Eligible to Attend</th>
<th>Date of First Appointment</th>
<th>Current Term of Office</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr Luke Taylor – President</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1 July 2015</td>
<td>1 July 2017 - 30 June 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Kristy Robson – Deputy President</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1 July 2015</td>
<td>1 July 2017 - 30 June 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Verona du Toit</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1 July 2015</td>
<td>1 July 2015 – 30 June 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Ebenezer Banful</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1 January 2011</td>
<td>1 July 2015 – 30 June 2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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
- Performance Review Panels

The Podiatry Council did not appoint any regulatory committees during the year.
Part 2: Reports from Health Professional Councils

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

The Podiatry Council did not appoint any committees during the year.

Meetings and Events
The Podiatry Council was represented at the following meetings and events during the year.

Table ii: Podiatry Council representation at meetings and events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Meeting / Event</th>
<th>Attended By</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AHPRA Forum - Responsible advertising in health care</td>
<td>Mr Luke Taylor – President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mr Ebenezer Banful – Council member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHPRA &amp; HCPC UK Research Seminar - Using data and intelligence to drive improvement</td>
<td>Mr Luke Taylor – President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Council on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation International Congress</td>
<td>Mr Luke Taylor – President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Board Chairs and NSW Council Presidents joint meeting</td>
<td>Mr Luke Taylor – President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podiatry Association NSW and ACT State Conference</td>
<td>Mr Luke Taylor (presenter) – President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr Kristy Robson (presenter) – Council member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podiatry Board of Australia Meeting</td>
<td>Mr Luke Taylor - President</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Overseas Travel
The Podiatry Council did not incur any overseas travel costs during the year.

Remuneration
Council members received the following remuneration.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>$2,336 per annum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy President</td>
<td>$1,752 per annum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council Members</td>
<td>$1,752 per annum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 Podiatry 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 expenditure from the Education and Research account this year.
Financial Management

The Podiatry Council’s accounts performance was reported in the Financial Statement as follows.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accounts Performance 2017/18</th>
<th>$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenue</td>
<td>326,144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating expenditure</td>
<td>206,397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gain / (loss) on disposal</td>
<td>(42)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net result</strong></td>
<td>119,705</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em><em>Net cash reserves</em> (cash and cash equivalents minus current liabilities)</em>*</td>
<td>478,696</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Included in the cash reserves is an Education and Research bank account balance of $65,737.

The Podiatry Council’s budget for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 is as follows.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget 2018/19</th>
<th>$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenue</td>
<td>310,964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating expenditure</td>
<td>184,531</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net result</strong></td>
<td>126,433</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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