I am pleased to present the Occupational Therapy Council’s annual report for 2018/19.

As in previous years, the importance of maintaining a positive and strong working relationship with stakeholders such as the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency, the Health Care Complaints Commission and the National Board remain a high priority for the Council. By maintaining and strengthening these collaborative relationships the Council is able to ensure that the community of NSW continues to receive a high standard of care from the occupational therapy profession.

The Council is also committed to ensuring that we continue to educate and promote the role of the Council through a number of actions with our practitioners, employers, education providers and the peak professional body.

I would like to welcome three new members to our Council namely Dr Alison Wicks (practitioner member), Mr Barry Dean (legal member) and Mr Robert Farrugia (community member) and extend my sincere appreciation to each of my fellow Council members. Each member of the Council has provided their expert advice and support regarding ongoing Council business.

As the number for registrants and notifications continues to grow, I expect that the next 12 months will bring new challenges and I look forward to facing each challenge and celebrating each achievement with my fellow colleagues of the Council.

Finally, I would like to thank the Health Professional Councils Authority for their continued commitment, support and hard work during the past year and look forward to working with all involved to ensure that we maintain public safety and confidence in the profession.

Mr Kim Nguyen
President
Occupational Therapy Council of New South Wales
Occupational Therapy Council
2018-19 Summary

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS

6,245
Registered occupational therapists in NSW

28%
of Australian occupational therapists practise in NSW

0.5%
of NSW occupational therapists had complaints made about them

Complaints were mainly from:
- Treating Practitioners - 12
- Other Practitioners - 8
- Patients - 8

Complaints were mainly about:
- Clinical care - 21
- Other - 4

10 cases were open at the beginning of the year

42 cases were closed during the year

15 cases were open at the end of the year

3 year trend in number of registered occupational therapists

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Therapists</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016/17</td>
<td>5,516</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017/18</td>
<td>5,881</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018/19</td>
<td>6,245</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3 year trend in number of complaints about occupational therapists

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Complaints</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016/17</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017/18</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018/19</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Occupational Therapy Council

2018-19 Summary

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY COUNCIL’S REGULATORY ACTIVITY – MATTERS CONCLUDED

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY COUNCIL’S REGULATORY ACTIVITY

1 immediate action was considered by Council

7 complaints were referred for Council management

Council conducted 2 counselling & interview sessions

HEALTH MATTERS

No Health Assessments or Impaired Registrants Panels (IRP)

PERFORMANCE MATTERS

No Performance Assessments or Performance Review Panels (PRP)

OUTCOMES

KEY ACTION OUTCOMES* FOR CLOSED CASES

No cancelled or surrendered registrations or conditions on practice
2 practitioners counselled
39 no further action or discontinued

ACTIVE MONITORING

No active monitoring cases

No Tribunals

*Not all outcomes are included and a complaint may have more than one outcome
**Part 2: Reports from Health Professional Councils**

**Council Members**

Six members sit on the Occupational Therapy Council as set out in the National Law.

Council members are nominated by the Minister for Health and appointed by the Governor.

Registered Occupational Therapy practitioner members:
- Mr Kim Nguyen BAppSc(OT), DipHRMgt, GradDipPH, GradDipStratLDRSHP, FRSPH, FIML, AFCHSM
- Ms Carolyn Fozzard BAppSc (OT), JD (Juris Doctor)
- Ms Melinda Hunt BAppSc (OT), LLB (Hons)
- Dr Alison Wicks PhD, M HSC (OT), B App SC (OT), Adjunct Associate Professor University of Canberra, JP

Legal member:
- Mr Barry Dean – B Optom (Hons), LLB (Hons), LLM

Community member:
- Mr Robert Farrugia – RN, Onc.Cert., BCom (UOW), MHSM (CSU)

The Governor appointed Mr Kim Nguyen as President of the Occupational Therapy Council.

The Governor appointed Ms Carolyn Fozzard as Deputy President of the Occupational Therapy Council.

**Executive Officer**

Mrs Maricel O’Farrell is the Executive Officer for the Occupational Therapy Council. Ms Heather Comino has been providing Executive Officer support to the Council since April 2019 while Mrs O’Farrell is on leave.

The Executive Officer is part of a team of 11 led by Ms Farina Bains. This team works with 11 of the health professional Councils.

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 during the year.

**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 first appointed</th>
<th>Current Term of Office*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Kim Nguyen</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1 July 2012</td>
<td>1 July 2018 – 30 June 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy President</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Carolyn Fozzard</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1 July 2012</td>
<td>1 July 2018 – 30 June 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Barry Dean</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1 July 2018</td>
<td>1 July 2018 – 30 June 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Robert Farrugia</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1 July 2018</td>
<td>1 July 2018 – 30 June 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Melinda Hunt</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1 July 2012</td>
<td>1 July 2018 – 30 June 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Alison Wicks</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1 July 2018</td>
<td>1 July 2018 – 30 June 2021</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.
Part 2: Reports from Health Professional Councils

Regulatory Committees and Panels
The National Law sets out the committees and panels that assist the Council to undertake its regulatory activities.

Regulatory committees and panels include:
- Impaired Registrants Panels (IRP)
- Performance Review Panels (PRP)
- Assessment Committees

The Occupational Therapy Council did not appoint any regulatory committee or panels during the year.

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 this 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Meeting / Event</th>
<th>Attended By</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NRAS Conference</td>
<td>Mr Kim Nguyen - President</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Council Communications and Stakeholder Engagement
The Occupational Therapy Council website provides easy access to information about the Council and its work, publications, the complaints process and an online complaint form.

The Occupational Therapy Council also distributes electronic newsletters to Occupational Therapy practitioners working in NSW. One newsletter was distributed this year including topics such as the regulatory model in NSW, the Council’s role, Continuing Professional Development, Counselling by the Council.

As part of the engagement plan for the Occupational Therapy Council and the National Board, Mr Kim Nguyen attended the Occupational Therapy Board Meeting on 1 March 2019.

Overseas Travel
The Occupational Therapy Council did not incur any overseas travel costs during the year.
**Part 2: Reports from Health Professional Councils**

**Remuneration**

Remuneration for Council members aligns with the Public Service Commission Remuneration Framework for NSW Government Boards and Committees. Council members receive additional payment for interviews, counselling sessions, immediate action inquiries, Council Inquiries and panels. No additional payments are made for other regulatory work such as official visits, committee meetings, training, conferences or preparation for meetings.

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

Occupational Therapy Council member remuneration rates are as follows.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Remuneration Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>$4,465 per annum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy President</td>
<td>$4,214 per annum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council Members</td>
<td>$3,665 per annum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Education and Research Account**

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

There was no expenditure from the Education and Research account this year.

**Financial Management**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accounts Performance 2018/19</th>
<th>$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenue</td>
<td>264,398</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating expenditure</td>
<td>182,484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gain / (loss) on disposal</td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net result</strong></td>
<td>81,912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net cash reserves</strong> (cash and cash equivalents minus current liabilities)</td>
<td>1,000,983</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Included in the cash reserves is an Education and Research bank account balance of $47,523.

The Occupational Therapy Council’s budget for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 is as follows.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget 2019/20</th>
<th>$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenue</td>
<td>269,540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating expenditure</td>
<td>230,691</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net result</strong></td>
<td>38,849</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

New South Wales Health Professional Councils *Annual Report 2019*