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**Government
of South Australia**

**Whyalla Hospital and Health Services
HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL INC
2020-21 Annual Report**

Whyalla Hospital and Health Services Health Advisory Council

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2020-2021 Annual Report for the Whyalla Hospital and Health Services Health Advisory Council

To:

Hon Stephen Wade MLC

Minister for Health and Wellbeing

This annual report will be presented to Parliament to meet the statutory reporting requirements of *Public Sector Act 2009*, *the Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and *the Health Care Act 2008* and the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular *PC013 Annual Reporting*.

This report is verified to be accurate for the purposes of annual reporting to the Parliament of South Australia.

Submitted on behalf of the Whyalla Hospital and Health Services Health Advisory Council by:

Presiding Member

Date 13/09/2021

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized 'S' or similar character, positioned above a horizontal line.

From the Presiding Member



The last 12 months have once again presented some interesting challenges with the restrictions around COVID19. Social media has to a degree assisted us with our engagement responsibilities as we were able to share daily information and updates from SA Health and the Government on our Facebook page and our social networks.

Whyalla Hospital and Health Services Health Advisory Council Incorporated members along with local community members are encouraged to actively participate on the various hospital committees, such as Partnering with Consumers, Infection Control, Strategic, Clinical, Operational and Planning Governance Committees. This enables a more balanced consumer focus to the provision of our health services.

The Presiding Members Panel within the Flinders and Upper North Local Health Network contributed to the preparation of a gap analysis on how the changes to the governance structure in July 2019 had affected the implementation of the Partnership Framework across the Flinders and Upper North Local Health Network region. The work group are continuing to work on an Action Plan to address the recommendations raised after receiving endorsement from the Flinders and Upper North Local Health Network Board.

We advocated on behalf of the community to the Federal Member for Grey, Rowan Ramsey, for support with a shortfall in the infrastructure funding announced in 2019 which will allow the relocation and co-location of the High Dependency Unit and the Accident and Emergency Department. This would assist in streamlining services in a safe working environment. We look forward to the commencement of this project and the benefits it will provide to the health services in these areas.

The Minister for Health and Wellbeing, the Hon Stephen Wade, has asked if the Health Advisory Councils would like to come together once again for an annual conference as had been the case in previous years. This would allow us to network and share ideas from each of our local communities. This will be the first conference to be held since 2019 and will be convened in Murray Bridge in October. The Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network have agreed to act as the host for this event. I look forward to attending and meeting with other Health Advisory Council Members and participating in this valuable networking opportunity.

This year we said goodbye to Bevan Francis, the Board Chair of Flinders and Upper North Local Health, we thank him for his dedication and contribution to our local health services and wish him well with his future endeavours. We look forward to another year advocating on behalf of our community in whatever format that make take and working in partnership the Flinders and Upper North Local Health Network Board. We thank the hospital staff for their assistance and support during the last twelve months.



Sandra Plew

**Whyalla Hospital and Health Services Health Advisory Council
Incorporated**

Contents Overview: about the agency	6
Our strategic focus	6
Our organisational structure.....	6
Changes to the agency	6
Our Minister.....	7
Our Executive team.....	7
Legislation administered by the agency.....	7
Other related agencies (within the Minister’s area/s of responsibility).....	7
The agency’s performance	8
Performance at a glance	8
Agency response to COVID-19.....	8
Agency contribution to whole of Government objectives	8
Agency specific objectives and performance.....	8
Corporate performance summary	8
Employment opportunity programs	8
Agency performance management and development systems.....	8
Work health, safety and return to work programs.....	9
Executive employment in the agency	9
Financial performance	10
Financial performance at a glance	10
Consultants disclosure	11
Contractors disclosure	11
Other financial information	12
Other information	12
Risk management	12
Risk and audit at a glance.....	12
Fraud detected in the agency.....	12
Strategies implemented to control and prevent fraud	12
Public interest disclosure	12
Reporting required under any other act or regulation	13
Reporting required under the <i>Carers’ Recognition Act</i> 2005.....	13
Public complaints	16
Number of public complaints reported	16
Additional Metrics	16
Service Improvements	16
Appendix: Audited financial statements 2020-2021	17

Overview: about the agency

Our strategic focus

Our Purpose	<p>The Health Advisory Council was established by the then Minister for Health and Ageing to undertake an advocacy role on behalf of the community and to provide advice in relation to health matters, amongst other functions.</p> <p>The constitution is available via hyperlink listed below: Whyalla Hospital and Health Services Health Advisory Council</p>
Our Vision	Not applicable
Our Values	Not applicable
Our functions, objectives and deliverables	The Health Advisory Council undertakes an advocacy role on behalf of the community.

Our organisational structure

Membership of the Health Advisory Council can include

- Up to eight community members
- Nominee of Local Government
- A local Member of Parliament or their nominee
- A medical practitioner member
- A worker from the Local Health Network

A list of current members is available at:

[Whyalla Hospital and Health Services Health Advisory Council](#)

Changes to the agency

During 2020-2021 there were no changes to the agency's structure and objectives as a result of internal reviews or machinery of government changes.



Our Minister

Hon Stephen Wade MLC is the Minister for Health and Wellbeing in South Australia.

The Minister oversees health, wellbeing, mental health, ageing well, substance abuse and suicide prevention.

Our Executive team

Not applicable

Legislation administered by the agency

Not applicable

Other related agencies (within the Minister's area/s of responsibility)

[Hawker District Memorial Health Advisory Council](#)

[Leigh Creek Health Services Health Advisory Council](#)

[Port Augusta, Roxby Downs, Woomera Health Advisory Council](#)

[Quorn Health Services Health Advisory Council](#)

The agency's performance

Performance at a glance

The Health Advisory Council undertakes an advocacy role on behalf of the community.

Agency response to COVID-19

Not applicable

Agency contribution to whole of Government objectives

Key objective	Agency's contribution
More jobs	Not applicable
Lower costs	Not applicable
Better Services	Not applicable

Agency specific objectives and performance

The Health Advisory Council undertakes an advocacy role on behalf of the community.

Agency objectives	Indicators	Performance
Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

Corporate performance summary

Not applicable

Employment opportunity programs

Program name	Performance
Not applicable	

Agency performance management and development systems

Performance management and development system	Performance
Not applicable	

Work health, safety and return to work programs

Not applicable

Executive employment in the agency

Not applicable

Financial performance

Financial performance at a glance

As the Whyalla Health Advisory Council is unincorporated, its assets and liabilities are included in the financial report of Barossa Hills Fleurieu Local Health Network Inc.

Statement of Comprehensive Income	2020-2021 Budget \$000s	2020-2021 Actual \$000s	Variation \$000s	2020-2021 Actual \$000s
Total Income	0	0	0	0
Total Expenses	0	0	0	0
Net Result	0	0	0	0
Total Comprehensive Result	0	0	0	0

Statement of Financial Position	2020-2021 Budget \$000s	2020-2021 Actual \$000s	Variation \$000s	2020-2021 Actual \$000s
Current assets	0	0	0	0
Non-current assets	0	0	0	0
Total assets	0	0	0	0
Current liabilities	0	0	0	0
Non-current liabilities	0	0	0	0
Total liabilities	0	0	0	0
Net assets	0	0	0	0
Equity	0	0	0	0

Consultants disclosure

The following is a summary of external consultants that have been engaged by the agency, the nature of work undertaken, and the actual payments made for the work undertaken during the financial year.

Consultancies with a contract value below \$10,000 each

Consultancies	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
All consultancies below \$10,000 each - combined	Not applicable	Not applicable

Consultancies with a contract value above \$10,000 each

Consultancies	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

Data for previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/flinders-and-upper-north-local-health-network-funlhn>

See also the Consolidated Financial Report of the Department of Treasury and Finance for total value of consultancy contracts across the South Australian Public Sector.

Contractors disclosure

The following is a summary of external contractors that have been engaged by the agency, the nature of work undertaken, and the actual payments made for work undertaken during the financial year.

Contractors with a contract value below \$10,000

Contractors	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

Contractors with a contract value above \$10,000 each

Contractors	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

Data for previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/flinders-and-upper-north-local-health-network-funlhn>

The details of South Australian Government-awarded contracts for goods, services, and works are displayed on the SA Tenders and Contracts website. [View the agency list of contracts.](#)

The website also provides details of [across government contracts.](#)

Other financial information

Nil

Other information

Nil

Risk management

Risk and audit at a glance

Not applicable

Fraud detected in the agency

Category/nature of fraud	Number of instances
Not applicable	

NB: Fraud reported includes actual and reasonably suspected incidents of fraud.

Strategies implemented to control and prevent fraud

Health Advisory Councils have specific functions and powers as defined in the *Health Care Act 2008* and the Constitution (for incorporated Health Advisory Councils or Rules (for non-incorporated Health Advisory Councils), including actions that cannot be undertaken without the approval of the Minister.

Health Advisory Councils are instrumentalities of the Crown and subject to relevant Department of Treasury and Finance Treasurers Instructions.

The Constitutions / Rules identify the actions to be undertaken in the event of a conflict of interest. All declared conflicts of interest are reported to the Minister for Health through Flinders and Upper North Local Health Network Inc.

Data for previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/flinders-and-upper-north-local-health-network-funlhn>

Public interest disclosure

Number of occasions on which public interest information has been disclosed to a responsible officer of the agency under the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2018*:

Nil

Data for previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/flinders-and-upper-north-local-health-network-funlhn>

Note: Disclosure of public interest information was previously reported under the *Whistle blowers Protection Act 1993* and repealed by the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2018* on 1/7/2019.

Reporting required under any other act or regulation

Act or Regulation	Requirement
Health Care Act 2008	Part 4 Health Advisory Councils, Division 2 Functions and Powers, 18 Functions

Provide advice about relevant aspect of the provision of health services, and relevant health issues, goals, priorities, plans and strategic initiatives.

- Members were invited to participate in the formation of the Flinders and Upper North Local Health Network (FUNLHN) Strategic Plan 2021- 2026.
- The Whyalla Hospital and Health Services Health Advisory Council Incorporated (HAC) have a Facebook page to enable us to share relevant information from SA Health, SA Government and FUNLHN with community members. This has been a good way to share any current Covid19 information, vaccination clinic information and SA Health and SA Government updates to the program rollout.
- Issues raised with individual HAC members from the community are recorded at our bi-monthly meetings, should a more urgent response be required this is then attended to out of session and then consulted at the next scheduled meeting.
- Members are encouraged to provide feedback on locally produced health literacy as it is prepared or updated from a consumer perspective.
- Whyalla HAC have prepared an information flyer advising of the role of the HAC and contact details to be shared with the community.
- The Presiding Members Panel consisting of the four HAC Presiding Members meet quarterly to share ideas and issues from throughout the Local Health Network. A report from these meeting is tabled at the Consumer and Community Engagement Committee of the FUNLHN Board.

Encourage community participation in programs.

- Covid19 Vaccination Clinic availability and SA Health updates to program rollouts are shared on our HAC Facebook page.
- Whyalla HAC members are encouraged to share information through their various networks and social groups in the community.
- Whyalla HAC and community members are encouraged to actively participate on the various hospital committees, such as Partnering with Consumers, Strategic Planning, Infection Control, Governance and Operational Committees and staff training programs, such as Service Matters Going the Extra Mile. This enables the community to have a voice on health services from a consumer perspective.
- Volunteers are encouraged to have a presence in the Cancer Resource Centre when the visiting Oncologist is attending at the hospital, Covid19 permitting. This allows for information and support to be offered to cancer patients and their

families. This has been limited this last 12 months due to Covid19 restrictions and the need to respect hospital protocols.

Consult with other bodies that are interested in the provision of health services.

- This year once again has been challenging with Covid19 restrictions and the need to socially distance. In saying that we have still been able to link via electronic means.
- Invited Rural doctors Workforce Agency CEO Lyn Poole to speak at a bi-monthly HAC meeting.
- The Primary Health Network Upper Eyre Local Health Cluster share information on health promotions and services in the community.
- Encourage community groups to fund equipment relevant to their chosen field such as Heartbeat, Pink Spirits and the Ladies Hospital Auxiliary.
- Whyalla Men's Shed Incorporated share information on health services, programs, and promotions with their members.
- Whyalla Cancer Support Network share information on health services and programs with support group members.
- The HAC Facebook page allows us to promote health programs, scholarships and share information about Health Advisory Councils via social media.
- The Presiding Member sits on the Management Committee of the Upper Eyre Local Health Cluster of the Primary Health Network. This allows discussion with other cluster members on various health issues such as Mental Health, Cancer, Asthma, Aged Care and Population Health.
- Deputy Presiding member is the Production Editor of the New Male Studies Journal.
- Deputy Presiding member is a member of the SA Rural Workforce Strategy Committee.
- Several HAC members are members of the Whyalla Cancer Support Network. This is felt to be an important link given we have a Regional Cancer Centre in the hospital. The network meets once a month with various cancer support groups and offer support in the hospital Cancer Resource Centre to cancer patients and their families.
- The Whyalla HAC was contacted regarding the lack of on the road parking spaces in close proximity to the hospital. The HAC contacted the Whyalla City Council to ask for consideration of angle parking along Essington Lewis Avenue. The initial response was dismissed due to council road bylaws and the current width of the road. The Council then decided to widen the road with a pavement kerb replacement program allowing for 32 extra parking spaces close to a hospital entrance.

Provide advice to the Minister about any matter referred to it by the Minister or CE.

- N/A

Participate in consultation or assessment process associated with the selection of senior staff.

- The Presiding Member and HAC members are encouraged and invited to participate in the selection process of senior staff at the Whyalla Hospital. I have sat on several interviewing panels in the last 12 months and feel my input has been considered in the overall selection process.

Act as trustee and participate in budget discussions and financial management or development processes; and to undertake fundraising activities (incorporated HAC).

- The Whyalla HAC have decided to undergo the process of becoming an incorporated body. As this process is still ongoing there is nothing to report at this point.

Provide advice about the management of resources for health services; and provide assistance with fundraising activities (unincorporated HAC).

- As there are several fundraising bodies who raise money to provide equipment and services to the hospital the HAC do not enter fundraising activities. Member do support fundraising events of the fundraising bodies such as Heartbeat, the Hospital Ladies Auxiliary, Pink Spirits, and the Wig Library where possible.
- The Whyalla HAC was advised of issues with the lack of availability of accommodation units in the hospital grounds for out-of-town cancer patients and their families. As the units were purpose built as part of the Regional Cancer Centre upgrade for cancer patient use, it was reported at our HAC meeting to the CEO. This is currently being monitored and addressed.
- The Whyalla HAC have met with and written to the Federal Member for Grey, Rowan Ramsey to ask for his support regarding a shortfall in the hospital infrastructure funding that was announced in April 2019 for the Accident and Emergency area and the High Dependency Unit area.

Reporting required under the *Carers' Recognition Act 2005*

Not applicable

Public complaints

Number of public complaints reported

A Regional Health Network response will be provided in the 2020-21 Flinders and Upper North Local Health Network Annual Report, which can be accessed on the [SA Health website](#).

Complaint categories	Sub-categories	Example	Number of Complaints
Not applicable			

Additional Metrics	Total
Not applicable	

Service Improvements

Not applicable

Appendix: Audited financial statements 2020-2021