

Media release

19 September 2012

National Board and AHPRA publish Health Profession Agreement

The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (National Board) and AHPRA today increased public access to financial information about the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (National Scheme).

In the interests of transparency and accountability, the National Board and AHPRA have for the first time published the Health Profession Agreement that outlines the services that AHPRA will provide to the National Board in 2012/13.

Under the National Law, the National Board and AHPRA work in partnership to implement the National Scheme, each with specific roles, powers and responsibilities set down in the National Law¹.

The guiding principles of the National Law require the National Scheme to operate in a 'transparent, accountable, efficient, effective and fair way'; and for registration fees to be reasonable 'having regard to the efficient and effective operation of the scheme'.

Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia Chair Anne Copeland said the National Board was accountable to the nursing and midwifery professions and the community.

'We are responsible for using practitioners' registration fees wisely in regulating the professions in the public interest,' Anne Copeland said.

'During 2011, the National Board adjusted the registration fee to ensure it could meet its regulatory responsibilities under the National Law. The National Board is committed to limiting future fee increases to the consumer price index, unless in exceptional circumstances such as a significant change to the scope of the National Board's operations and regulatory responsibilities.

'The National Board is pleased to provide more detailed information about how registration fees are allocated to regulate the nursing and midwifery professions in Australia by publishing the Health Profession Agreement,' she said.

AHPRA CEO, Martin Fletcher, emphasised that the National Board and AHPRA were committed to increasing transparency and accountability in financial reporting.

'As AHPRA's reporting capability strengthens, we are able to publish more detailed information about each National Board's financial operations and AHPRA's performance. This complements the audited data and performance reporting included in each year's annual report,' Mr Fletcher said.

The Nursing and Midwifery Board Health Profession Agreement is available for review on the [Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia website](#).

¹ Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory.

For more information

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