



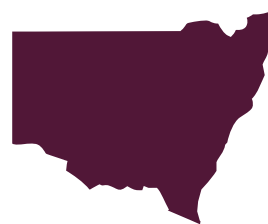
**Paramedicine
Council**
of NSW

Paramedicine Council of NSW

Annual Report 2018-19

JOINT ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE 15 NEW SOUTH WALES HEALTH PROFESSIONAL COUNCILS
ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HEALTH PRACTICE COUNCIL CHINESE MEDICINE COUNCIL
CHIROPRACTIC COUNCIL DENTAL COUNCIL MEDICAL COUNCIL MEDICAL RADIATION PRACTICE COUNCIL NURSING
AND MIDWIFERY COUNCIL OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY COUNCIL OPTOMETRY COUNCIL OSTEOPATHY COUNCIL
PARAMEDICINE COUNCIL PHARMACY COUNCIL PHYSIOTHERAPY COUNCIL PODIATRY COUNCIL PSYCHOLOGY COUNCIL

President's Message



**Paramedicine
Council**
of NSW

I am pleased to present the Paramedicine Council of NSW 2018/19 Annual Report, the first since the Council became operational in December 2018.

The paramedicine profession became subject to regulation within the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (NRAS) on 1 December 2018. In accordance with the co-regulatory arrangements for NSW under the NRAS, the Paramedicine Council also commenced its regulatory activity at this time.

The Council is a statutory body established under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (NSW). Council members are appointed by the Governor of NSW. It is completely independent of any organisations that employ paramedics, with the primary purpose of protecting the health and safety of the public. The Council does this through avenues that require safe practice and compliance with the Guidelines and Standards that have been established for registered paramedics. There are over 4,000 paramedics registered in NSW representing approximately 26% of all registered paramedics in Australia.

The Council is comprised of four registered paramedic members, a community member and a legal member. The Council has started receiving complaints concerning paramedics from health professionals, paramedics, employers and the general public. These complaints have been managed in accordance with the Council's policies and legislated powers. In dealing with these complaints the focus has been protective and not to simply punish or discipline practitioners. When the Council takes action, the protection of the health and safety of the public is our primary consideration.

The Council has initially focused on establishing its knowledge and understanding in exercising its regulatory responsibilities. This has involved a number of training and development sessions covering all aspects of regulatory operations. In 2019 the Council issued an expression of interest for suitable registered paramedics to be added to a professional members panel. This EOI process has resulted in the establishment of a professional group who can be asked by Council to participate in hearing panels as the need arises.

The Council met with the Paramedicine Board of Australia to discuss areas of shared interest in the regulation of paramedics in Australia. We look forward to continued collaboration with the Board on regulatory activities in the coming year.

On behalf of the Council, I would like to thank the Health Professional Councils Authority team for its support during the establishment of the Paramedicine Council. This has been a significant factor in effectively commencing its regulatory activity. In particular I would like to thank Asha Mears (Executive Officer to the Paramedicine Council), Farina Bains (Executive Officer, Combined Councils) and Oliver Astbury (Assistant Program Officer) for their work in guiding and supporting the Council.

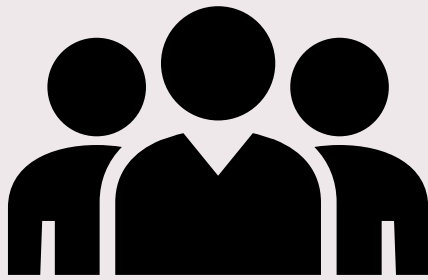
The Council would also like to acknowledge the strong collaborative co-regulatory relationship established with the Health Care Complaints Commission.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Alan Morrison', located below the main text of the message.

Mr Alan Morrison
President
Paramedicine Council of New South Wales

2018-19 Summary

PARAMEDICS



4,417

Registered paramedics in NSW

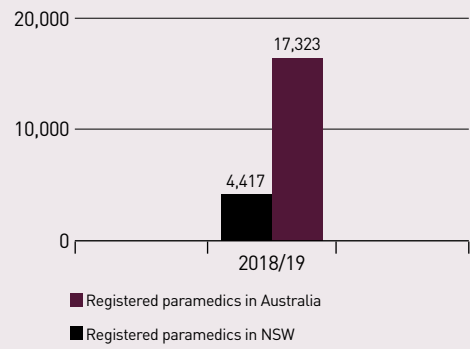
26%

of Australian paramedics practise in NSW

2%

of NSW paramedics had complaints made about them

Number of registered paramedics*



* 2018/19 was the first year of registration for paramedics.

COMPLAINTS ABOUT PARAMEDICS



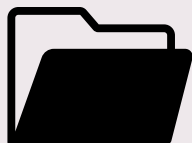
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cases were open at the beginning of the year



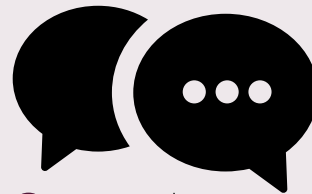
64

cases were closed during the year



26

cases were open at the end of the year



90

complaints were received about 87 paramedics in 2018/19

81

of the complaints received were mandatory notifications about 79 practitioners

Complaints were mainly from:

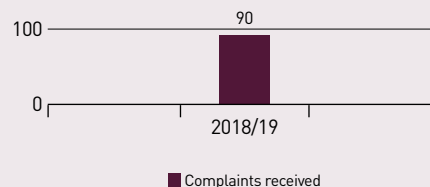
Employer - **86%**

Complaints were mainly about:

Health impairment - **74%**

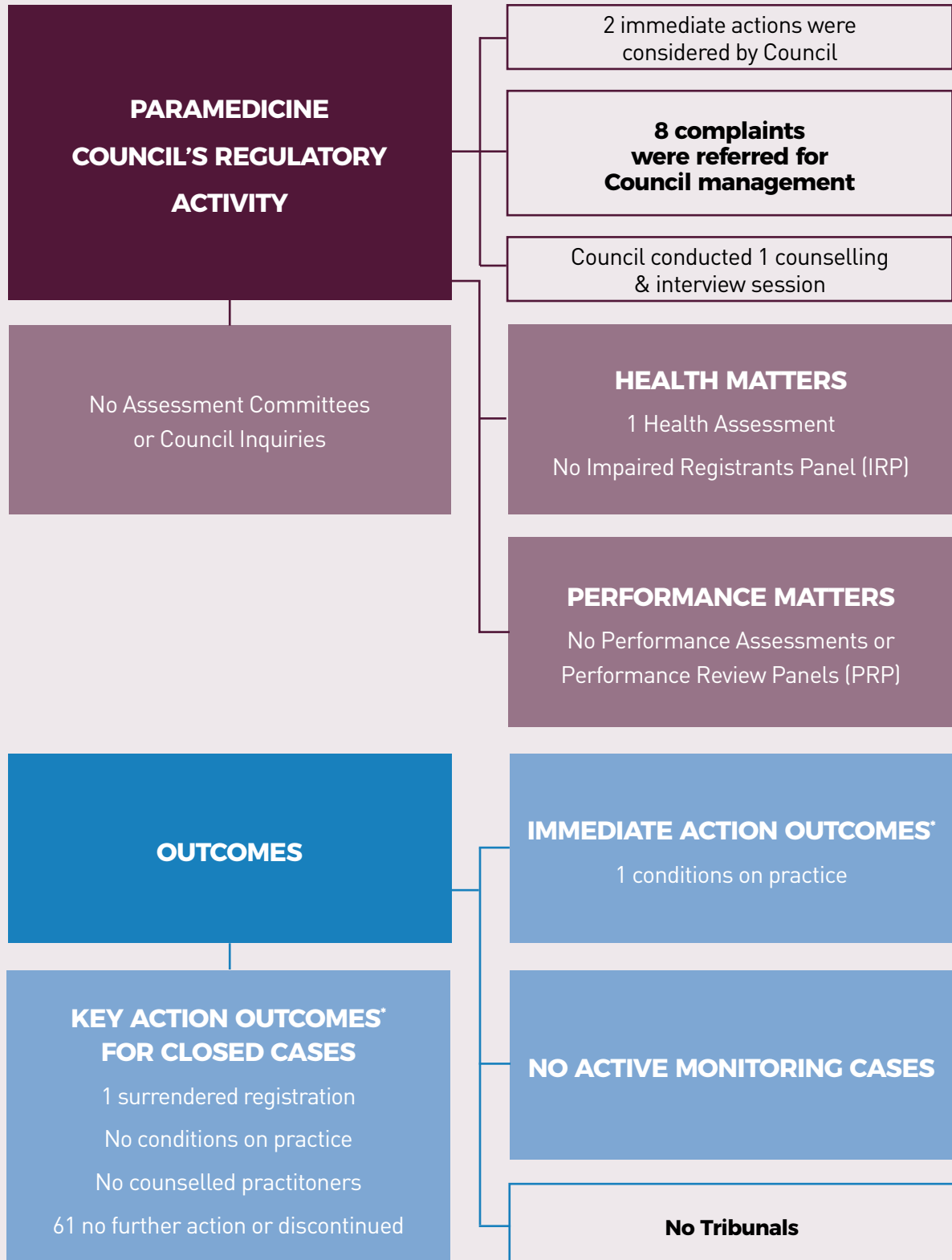
The majority of mandatory notifications about health impairment did not meet the threshold of notifiable conduct. These were mostly about health issues/injuries that were adequately managed and therefore discontinued at consultation with the HCCC.

Complaints about paramedics



2018-19 Summary

PARAMEDICINE COUNCIL'S REGULATORY ACTIVITY - MATTERS CONCLUDED



*Not all outcomes are included and a complaint may have more than one outcome

Council Members

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

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

Registered Paramedicine practitioner members:

- Mr Alan Morrison MPET, GradDipPA, GradDipEd, BParaPrac, BAppSc, AdvDipParaSc
- Mr Peter Lang AdvDipParaSc, BHlthSc (PreHospCare), FANZCP
- Mr Brian Parsell ASM, FPA, FANZCP, AFCHSE, BHSc, BN, GradDipHSM, GradDipPSc
- Ms Cassandra McKenzie BHSc (Nursing), AdvDipParaSc, DipEMD, GradCert Redesign, MANZCP, RN

Legal member:

- Mr Greg McAllan BA (Hons), BLegStudies (Hons), CM, CN, LL.M, GradDipPubAdmin

Community member:

- Ms Margo Gill MBA, MAppSc

The Governor appointed Mr Alan Morrison as President of the Paramedicine Council, for a term of appointment commencing on 1 July 2019.

The Governor appointed Mr Peter Lang as Deputy President of the Paramedicine Council, for a term of appointment commencing on 1 July 2019.

Executive Officer

Ms Asha Mears is the Executive Officer for the Paramedicine Council.

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 Paramedicine Council met nine times during the year.

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

Member	Meetings Attended	Meetings Eligible to Attend	Date first appointed	Current Term of Office*
Mr Alan Morrison	8	9	25 October 2018	25 October 2018 to 30 June 2021
Mr Peter Lang	9	9	25 October 2018	25 October 2018 to 30 June 2021
Ms Margo Gill	8	9	25 October 2018	25 October 2018 to 30 June 2021
Mr Greg McAllan	8	9	25 October 2018	25 October 2018 to 30 June 2021
Ms Cassandra McKenzie	9	9	25 October 2018	25 October 2018 to 30 June 2021
Mr Brian Parsell	6	9	25 October 2018	25 October 2018 to 30 June 2021

* 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 assist the Council to undertake its regulatory activities.

Regulatory committees and panels include:

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

The Paramedicine Council did not appoint any regulatory committees or panels during the year.

Council Committees

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

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

Meetings and Events

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

Table ii: Paramedicine Council representation at meetings and events

Name of Meeting / Event	Attended By
NRAS Combined Meeting and Research Summit	Alan Morrison – Council Member
AHPRA – National Board Representatives and NSW Council Representatives Meeting	Alan Morrison – Council Member Margo Gill – Council Member Cassandra McKenzie – Council Member

Council Communications and Stakeholder Engagement

The Paramedicine Council website provides easy access to information about the Council and its work, publications, the complaints process and an online complaint form.

As part of the engagement plan for the Paramedicine Council and the National Board, representatives from each met at the NRAS Combined Meeting and Research Summit, and at a National Board meeting.

Overseas Travel

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

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.

Paramedicine Council member remuneration rates are as follows.

President	\$4,465 per annum
Deputy President	\$4,214 per annum
Council Members	\$3,665 per annum

Financial Management

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

Accounts Performance 2018/19	\$
Revenue	347,114
Operating expenditure	202,302
Gain / (loss) on disposal	(-)
Net result	144,812
Net cash reserves* (cash and cash equivalents minus current liabilities)	179,595

The Paramedicine Council's budget for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 is as follows.

Budget 2019/20	\$
Revenue	573,856
Operating expenditure	566,491
Net result	7,365

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