

QUARTERLY MEETING WITH COMMONWEALTH  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND AGEING, STATE OFFICE

# COMMUNIQUÉ

Attended by:

Ms Jan Turbill, State Manager, DoHA  
Ms Fran Lovell, Assistant State Manager, DoHA  
Dr. Mike Beckoff, Chair, GPSA Board of Directors  
Dr Cathy Sanders, Vice Chair, GPSA Board of Directors  
Ms Gretchen Scinta, Chief Executive Officer, GPSA

1. The **National Health and Hospitals Reform Commission** report was discussed and DoHA advised that results of consultation and planning activities undertaken with Divisions can be fed back through to the State branch to contribute to a South Australian perspective. DoHA advised that there are further consultation visits to rural areas scheduled.
2. Activities around the **Closing the Gap** initiative were reviewed. GPSA is working collaboratively with DoHA as part of the COAG Implementation Advisory Group processes. The contribution from GPSA in providing information for use in determining priority regions was acknowledged by DoHA.
3. Difficulties with **PHC RIS reporting** were highlighted by GPSA. GPSA queried the process of DoHA providing Medicare data to PHC RIS and then having it appear in the Division reports. DoHA noted that the Division reporting provides an opportunity for context and analysis of the data.
4. DoHa provided an update on **MAHS funding** and advised that it will be consolidated within the new rural programs package, to commence 1 January for six months, then followed by a 12 month contract. The State branch is not across the details for ATAPS funding.

**Dr Mike Beckoff**  
Chair, Board of Directors

**Gretchen Scinta**  
Chief Executive Officer

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