

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
LAID ON THE TABLE

17 Nov 2016

Port Pirie Health Service Advisory Council

Annual Report

2015-16



Government of South Australia

Port Pirie Health Service Advisory
Council

**Port Pirie Health Service Advisory Council
Annual Report 2015-16**

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ISSN 1837-4212

This annual report was prepared by the Port Pirie Health Service Advisory Council

Copies of the annual report can be obtained by contacting
Port Pirie Regional Health Service (see contact details below) or via Health Advisory Council
website at <http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/CountryHealthSA>

Port Pirie Health Service Advisory Council

C/- Port Pirie Regional Health Service

The Terrace

PORT PIRIE SA 5540

Telephone: (08) 8638 4500



Hon. Jack Snelling M.P.
Minister for Health

Dear Minister

In accordance with the *Public Sector Act 2009* and the *Health Care Act 2008*, I am pleased to submit the annual report of Port Pirie Health Service Advisory Council for presentation to Parliament.

This report provides an accurate account of the operations of the Port Pirie Health Service Advisory Council for the financial year ending 30 June 2016, in accordance with the Department of the Premier and Cabinet Circular on Annual Reporting Requirements.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B Hay'.

Barry Hay
Presiding Member
Port Pirie Health Service Advisory Council

23 September 2016

Contents	Page Number
Report of the Presiding Member	5
Role and Function	6-7
Public Complaints	7
<i>Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993</i>	7
Freedom of Information	7

Report of the Presiding Member

The 2015 Port Pirie Health Services Advisory Council (HAC) Annual General Meeting was held on Tuesday 26 October 2015. The majority of vacant positions were filled by a good cross section of community members and all have been very active over the last 12 months.

The future of Port Pirie is extremely exciting and there is a great deal of positive energy flowing throughout the community. The Nyrstar transformation has provided a lifeline to the town and I look forward to seeing this and other projects progress over the coming year. There will still be some challenging times ahead for the Port Pirie community; however the members of the HAC will continue to work with Country Health SA Local Health Network to improve access to health services for all country people.

At last year's Annual General Meeting I outlined details of a jointly funded project to develop a Palliative Care unit within the Port Pirie Regional Health Service. The Palliative Care unit, a joint project between the SA Government and the Port Pirie HAC was officially opened on 6 May 2016 by Minister for Health, the Honourable Jack Snelling. Supporting this development has been the Melisa Ward foundation and the Coles Port Pirie Beau Klusky fundraising team.

The Palliative Care suite has been designed to provide an environment that is like home, where families can come and go as they would in their own home. This model of care will also enhance the integration of services between the inpatient and community based palliative care service.

This opening coincided with the uplifting of the time capsule by Minister Snelling and the Honourable Geoff Brock from the front entrance of the hospital. This capsule had been in place for the last 25 years and when opened was found to contain hospital centenary newspaper articles and other historical information.

As always, our most important asset are our staff whichever area they work in. We thank them for their dedicated service to our community and wish to acknowledge the professional service they deliver on a day-to-day basis.

To our many volunteers who support our health service with their time and expertise, whether it be delivering papers, driving the buses or assisting with our many other support programs, a big thank you to you all.

I also thank our Regional Director, Roger Kirchner and all other senior staff for their commitment both local and regional initiatives which means the Port Pirie community continues to access a first class health service.

I wish to acknowledge and thank all members of the HAC for their ongoing commitment to move forward and embrace change, which will ensure we will continue to improve.

Barry Hay
Presiding Member

Role and Function

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.

In accordance with the requirements of section 17 of the *Health Care Act 2008*, the Health Advisory Council is governed by a constitution determined by the Minister.

Full details of the functions of the Health Advisory Council are contained in the Rules and are précised as follows:

The functions of the Health Advisory Council are to:

- > Act as an advocate to promote the health interests of the community.
- > Provide advice to the Minister and the Chief Executive about any aspect of the provision of health services in the Local Area by Country Health SA Local Health Network Inc from the perspective of consumers of those services and in addition, carers and volunteers who interface with the services; or any aspect of the provision to the community of health services outside of the local area, from the perspective of consumers of those services and in addition, carers and volunteers who interface with the services.
- > Provide advice to the Minister and the Chief Executive about a range of issues, including:
 - health issues, goals, priorities, plans, and other strategic initiatives of local health service sites
 - the development or implementation of systems or mechanisms designed to support the delivery of health or services at local health service sites
 - the development and management of health services and on the resources made available for these services.
- > Provide advice to the Minister about any matter referred to it by the Minister or Chief Executive.
- > Assist the Minister and Chief Executive in the provision of information to, and to consult broadly with, the consumers of health services provided by Country Health SA Local Health Network Inc in the local area.
- > Encourage community participation in programs associated with supporting the provision of health services by Country Health SA Local Health Network Inc and promote the importance of carers and volunteers.
- > Consult with other bodies that are interested in the provision of health services within the community.
- > Participate in consultation or assessment processes associated with selection of senior staff at local health services.
- > Provide assistance with fundraising activities.

Members of the Health Advisory Council during the year were:

- > CHIVELL, Gerry
- > FARRELL, Sydney
- > HAY, Barry
- > JACKSON, Kendall
- > NEILSON, Tom
- > PAPARELLA, Joseph (Joe)
- > STERNAL, Elizabeth (Liz)
- > TAYLOR, Daniel (until 17.08.2015)
- > THOMAS, David (from 22.02.2016 until 8.04.2016)

Public Complaints

A whole of SA Health response is provided in the Department for Health and Ageing 2015-16 Annual Report, which can be accessed at the following link:

<http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/public+content/sa+health+internet/about+us/publications+and+resources/reports>

Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993

The *Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993* provides an opportunity for public interest to be disclosed to a responsible officer of the agency.

There have been nil reports for the 2015-16 year.

Freedom of Information

The *Freedom of Information Act 1991* gives members of the public a legally enforceable right to access information held by the South Australian Government, subject to certain restrictions. The Health Advisory Council website provides an overview of the advisory council's roles and functions: <http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/CountryHealthSA>

The Health Advisory Council was established by the Minister to undertake an advocacy role on behalf of the community and provide advice in relation to health matters, amongst other functions. Applications for access to information under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* legislation including purchase costs or amendment of records should be addressed to:

Mr Barry Hay
Presiding Member
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