



17 July 2013

Mr Richard Willis
Secretary
Legal and Social Issues Committee
Parliament House
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002

Dear Mr Willis

Thank you for your letter of 28 June 2013 attaching the draft transcript of my evidence to the Committee on 26 June 2013 and seeking further information in relation to a question on notice.

The transcript requires one minor amendment to it on page 15 which I have noted and attached.

During the hearing, I took a question on notice (at page 17 of the transcript) in relation to the timeframe for responses from the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) in comparison with the previous state based boards. The tables below analyse the difference in average response times and distribution of complaints from 7 to >180 days between the state based Registration Boards and AHPRA.

Table 1: Average days for a response from the Registration Boards/AHPRA

	Boards (1 July 2006- 30 June 2010)	AHPRA (1 July 2010- 30 July 2013)
Chinese Medicine Registration Board	19	31
Chiropractors Registration Board of Victoria	54	35
Dental Practice Board of Victoria	24	49
Medical Practitioners Board of Victoria	38	49
Medical Radiation Technologists Board of Victoria	39	24
Nurses Board of Victoria	35	63
Optometrists Registration Board of Victoria	34	47
Osteopaths Registration Board of Victoria	15	21
Pharmacy Board of Victoria	18	40
Physiotherapists Registration Board of Victoria	28	49
Podiatrists Registration Board of Victoria	24	46
Psychologists Registration Board of Victoria	26	39
Average Time taken	29	41

Table 2: Response times for previous boards (1/7/2006 – 30/06/2010)

AVE Days		Number of complaints per time period								
		7	14	21	30	60	90	180	+180	
19	Chinese Medicine Registration Board	2	4	0	2	3	0	0	0	11
54	Chiropractors Registration Board of Victoria	4	3	0	0	5	1	1	1	15
25	Dental Practice Board of Victoria	129	56	42	35	60	24	14	9	369
38	Medical Practitioners Board of Victoria	388	264	131	92	166	51	61	48	1201
39	Medical Radiation Technologists Board of Victoria	0	4	2	0	1	0	0	1	8
35	Nurses Board of Victoria	17	5	7	8	5	5	5	1	53
34	Optometrists Registration Board of Victoria	17	5	5	5	9	2	2	0	45
15	Osteopaths Registration Board of Victoria	3	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	6
18	Pharmacy Board of Victoria	14	8	4	3	2	2	1	0	34
28	Physiotherapists Registration Board of Victoria	6	3	4	3	2	2	2	0	22
24	Podiatrists Registration Board of Victoria	4	1	1	0	4	0	0	0	10
26	Psychologists Registration Board of Victoria	8	6	6	3	4	1	2	0	30
29	Grand Total	592	361	202	151	261	89	88	60	1804

Table 3: Response times for AHPRA (1/7/2010 – 30/06/2013)

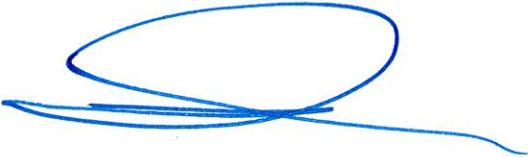
AVE Days		7	14	21	30	60	90	180	+180	
0	ATSI Health Practice Board of Australia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31	Chinese Medicine Board of Australia	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	3
35	Chiropractors Board of Australia	1	2	0	3	0	2	0	0	8
49	Dental Board of Australia	19	28	53	89	161	35	32	15	432
49	Medical Board of Australia	74	146	114	171	343	117	54	39	1058
24	Medical Radiation Technologists Board of Australia	2	1	1	2	3	0	0	0	9
63	Nurses Board of Australia	1	4	4	9	20	8	13	1	60
47	Optometrists Board of Australia	0	4	2	9	15	2	1	1	34
21	Osteopaths Board of Australia	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
40	Pharmacy Board of Australia	0	2	4	3	4	1	2	0	16
49	Physiotherapists Board of Australia	0	0	0	1	4	2	0	0	7
46	Podiatrists Board of Australia	0	4	3	3	3	0	0	1	14
39	Psychologists Board of Australia	0	8	2	4	4	3	3	0	24
41	Grand Total	97	199	185	295	559	170	105	57	1667

Analysing data from the Dental and Medical Boards of Victoria, the response times were predominantly 7 – 14 days under the old system compared with 30 – 60 days for the Dental and Medical Boards of Australia under the national system. This covers the early period of AHPRA's establishment and the difficulties with response times when the national system was first established.

I have shared these data with AHPRA.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide further information to the Committee. Should the Committee wish any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, loopy oval shape at the top, followed by a horizontal line that crosses under the oval and extends to the right.

Dr Grant Davies
Acting Health Services Commissioner