



**Annual
Report
2015-16**



**Occupational
Therapy Council**
of New South Wales

President's message



*Occupational Therapy Council
of New South Wales*

I am pleased to present the Occupational Therapy Council's report for 2015/16. While there was 50% increase in complaints about occupational therapists received by the Council in the past year it is important to note that the overall complaints received remain low.

Nonetheless the Council has undertaken work to produce resources to ensure consistency and improve its processes in areas of risk. The key pieces of work completed in this area are policies, position statements and templates around mentoring and supervision which are designed to assist both practitioners and decision makers understand the Council's expectations in these important areas. These are available publically on the Council's website.

The Council also participated in the Occupational Therapy Board of Australia's Competency Standards Review Reference Group. The Council looks forward to the new competency standards being rolled out by the Board.

The Council will continue to work with our stakeholders such as the National Board, AHPRA and the Health Care Complaints Commission in order to maintain a high standard of regulation of occupational therapists in NSW.

I wish to thank the staff of the Health Professional Councils Authority for their hard work and support during the last year. I must also thank my fellow Council members for their diligence and robust participation in Council business.

I look forward to the challenges that the next year will bring.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kim Nguyen', written over a horizontal line.

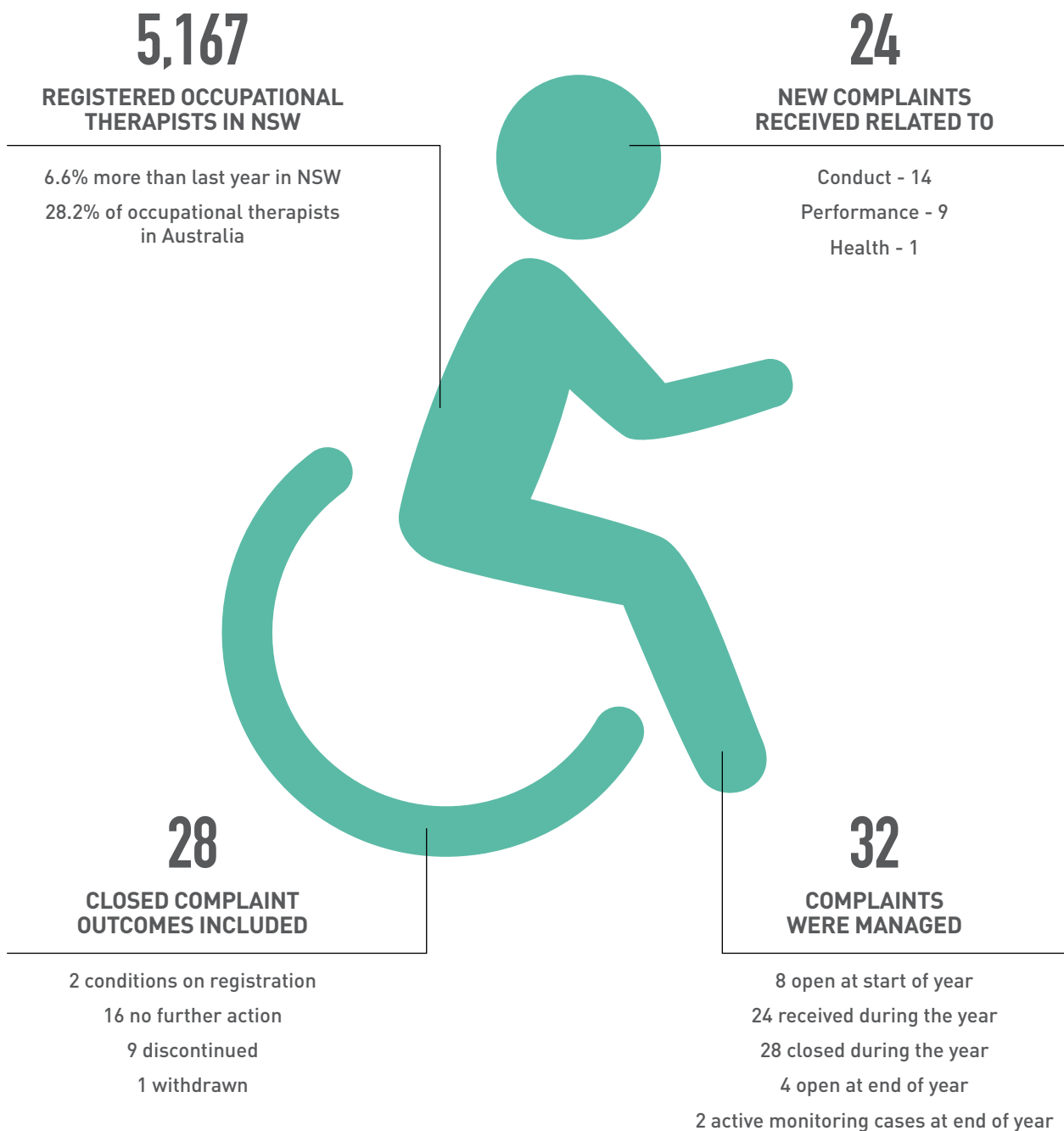
Mr Kim Nguyen

President

Occupational Therapy Council of NSW

Regulation of Occupational Therapists in 2015/16

Overview



Regulation of Occupational Therapists in NSW in 2015/16

Year in summary

As at 30 June 2016 NSW had 5,167 registered occupational therapists representing 28.2% of the 18,304 occupational therapists registered to practise in Australia. There was an increase of 6.6% on the 4,846 occupational therapists registered in NSW last year.

During the year the Occupational Therapy Council of NSW managed 32 complaints including:

- 8 open matters at the start of the year
- 24 new complaints received during the year.

By year end 28 complaints had been closed and four matters remained open.

The 24 new complaints received this year were about 24 practitioners representing 0.46% of NSW registered occupational therapists. There were eight more complaints received this year compared with the 16 complaints received in 2014/15.

This year there were no mandatory notifications.

The Council received seven complaints from a relative of a patient or practitioner; five complaints from patients; three from another health practitioner; three from an employer; two from AHPRA; two from a member of the public; one self report; and one anonymous complaint.

Complaints received about NSW occupational therapists related to:

- Conduct – 14 complaints
- Performance – 9 complaints
- Health – 1 complaint.

No complaints received immediate action consideration.

After Council consultations with the HCCC, 13 of the complaints received during the year were referred for Council management.

No matters were referred to NCAT.

One health assessment was conducted and three complaints involved Impaired Registrant Panels.

Outcomes for the 28 matters closed during the year were as follows.

Outcome	Number
Conditions on registration	2
No further action	16
Discontinued	9
Withdrawn	1
Total	28

At year end two health cases were being actively monitored.

Council membership

Section 41E of the law prescribes that there are 6 members of the Occupational Therapy Council appointed by the Governor.

Members who are registered occupational therapy practitioners:

- Mr Kim Nguyen BAppSc (OT), Grad Dip (Public Health) – President
- Dr Katherine Moore BAppSc (OT), MAppSc (OT), PhD – Deputy President
- Ms Carolyn Fozzard BAppSc (OT)
- Ms Melinda Hunt BAppSc (OT) LLB (Hons).

Legal member:

- Ms Angela Petrie BPharm, LLM, MLLP.

Community member:

- Mr John Peterson BCom(Hons).

Attendance at Council meetings

The Occupational Therapy Council met on 11 occasions. Attendance at the meetings was as follows.

Member	Meetings Attended	Meetings Eligible to Attend
Ms Carolyn Fozzard	11	11
Ms Melinda Hunt	11	11
Dr Katherine Moore	10	11
Mr Kim Nguyen	11	11
Ms Angela Petrie	7	11
Mr John Peterson	11	11

Executive Officer

The Occupational Therapy Council was supported by the Executive Officer and 1.5 FTE staff allocation. Mr Brad Skidmore and Ms Sarah Carroll provided Executive Officer support during the reporting period. The Executive Officer and support staff are employed by the HPCA.

Committees of Council

Section 41F of the Law provides that the Council may establish committees to assist it with the exercise of its functions. Members of committees need not be Council members. The Occupational Therapy Council did not appoint any committees during the reporting period.

Regulatory committees and panels

Part 8 of the Law prescribes the committees and panels that support the Council in undertaking its regulatory activities. They include Assessment Committees, Impaired Registrants Panels and Performance Review Panels.

The Occupational Therapy Council was supported by six Impaired Registrants Panels during the reporting period, including three reviews. The panel members and panel attendance was as follows.

Name	Role on panel	Panels Attended
Dr Mary-Anne Friend	Medical practitioner	3
Dr Karen Arnold	Medical practitioner	4
Mrs Brenda McLeod	Occupational therapist	4
Mrs Michelle Williams	Occupational therapist	3
Miss Sarah Blakemore	Occupational therapist	4
Ms Linda Stone	Occupational therapist	1

Meetings and conferences

The Occupational Therapy Council was represented at the following meetings and conferences.

Name	Attendance
Council Presidents' Forum	Mr Kim Nguyen
Occupational Therapy Board of Australia Competency Standards Reference Group	Dr Katherine Moore Ms Melinda Hunt

Overseas travel

There was no overseas travel during the reporting period.

Council communications

The Occupational Therapy Council website is the principal medium used for communicating information to occupational therapists, occupational therapy students and the community. The website is updated regularly and includes links to other key bodies in the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme.

The Occupational Therapy Council also distributes electronic newsletters to occupational therapists with a principal place of practice in NSW. Further information may be accessed on the Council's website at www.occupationaltherapyCouncil.nsw.gov.au.

Remuneration

Remuneration for members of the Council was as follows:

President	\$2,336 per annum
Deputy President and Members	\$1,752 per annum

In addition, Council members receive sitting fees for the conduct of Council inquiries and for attendance at committee meetings and other regulatory activities if held on a day other than the Council meeting. Council members are reimbursed for expenses incurred when travelling on official business at Council direction.

Members of panels and tribunals also receive remuneration and reimbursement of expenses.

Financial Management

The Occupational Therapy Council's accounts performance as reported in the Financial Statements was as follows.

Accounts Performance 2015/16	\$
Revenue	254,612
Operating expenditure	132,464
Gain/(loss) on disposal	83
Net result	122,231
Net cash reserves (cash and cash equivalents minus current liabilities)	678,704

* Included in the net cash reserves is Education and Research bank account balance of \$45,041.

The Occupational Therapy Council's budget for the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 is as follows.

Budget 2016/17	\$
Revenue	232,409
Operating expenditure	186,108
Net result	46,301

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