

Review of the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for health professions

March 2015

This is the final in a series of bulletins to provide information on a project undertaken under the auspices of the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council (AHMAC).

The National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for health professions (the National Scheme) commenced in 2010 following the enactment of the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009* in each State and Territory.

In accordance with the intergovernmental agreement that underpins the National Scheme, the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council (Ministerial Council) commissioned an Independent Review following the first three years of operation.

Mr Kim Snowball was appointed by the Ministerial Council as the Independent Reviewer and conducted the Review between April 2014 and January 2015 in accordance with the project plan and terms of reference approved by the Ministerial Council.

The Review undertook broad-ranging consultations that were guided by a Consultation Paper released in August 2014, and considered more than 230 written submissions. The Review included a cost effectiveness, efficiency and economic assessment of the National Scheme undertaken by the Professional Standards Authority in the United Kingdom, selected following a competitive tender process.

The final report for the Review makes a series of recommendations for the consideration of the Ministerial Council, drawing on the evidence gathered in the Review analysis, consultation process and the cost effectiveness study.

Health Ministers will consider the final report of the Independent Reviewer at the April 2015 meeting of the Ministerial Council.

The final report is expected to be publicly released following consideration by the Ministerial Council and work will then commence on the implementation of recommendations accepted by the Ministerial Council.

Submissions to the Review are expected to be published on the COAG Health Council website at: <http://www.coaghealthcouncil.gov.au> following the release of the final report.

