



**Government
of South Australia**

**WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH
NETWORK
HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL INC
2019-20 Annual Report**

WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH NETWORK

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To: Hon Stephen Wade MLC
Minister for Health and Wellbeing

The Women's and Children's Health Network (WCHN) Governing Council ceased operations on 30 June 2019, due to the establishment of Local Health Network Governing Boards under the *Health Care Act 2008* on 1 July 2019. The WCHN Governing Board subsumed the functions of the Governing Council.

The Health Care (Governance) Amendment Bill 2019 was introduced into Parliament on 2 May 2019 and contained clauses to dissolve the WCHN Governing Council. While the Bill passed the Legislative Council, it did not pass through the House of Assembly before Parliament was prorogued on 19 December 2019, hence lapsing before it was passed.

A revised (but largely the same) version of the Bill, being the Health Care (Governance) Amendment Bill 2020, was introduced into Parliament on 17 June 2020. This Bill too, proposed to dissolve the WCHN Governing Council.

While the Governing Council did not operate during 2019-20, this Annual Report is presented to Parliament to meet the statutory reporting requirements of the *Public Sector Act 2009*, the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and the *Health Care Act 2008*. It meets the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular *PC013 Annual Reporting*.

As all Governing Council member terms have now ceased; this report is submitted on behalf of the WCHN Governing Council, by the Chief Executive Officer, WCHN.

Lindsey Gough
Chief Executive Officer
Women's and Children's Health Network



Date 30/09/2020

Signature

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Overview: about the agency

Our strategic focus

The Women's and Children's Health Network Health Advisory Council Inc (also referred to as the Governing Council) was established by the then South Australian Minister for Health and Ageing to undertake an advocacy role on behalf of the community, and to provide advice to the Minister for Health and Wellbeing and the Women's and Children's Health Network (WCHN) in relation to health matters, among other functions. In accordance with the requirements of Section 17 of the *Health Care Act 2008* the Governing Council has been governed by a Constitution determined by the Minister.

Our organisational structure

The Governing Council comprised of no fewer than six and not more than eight members, including a Presiding Member. The composition of the Governing Council is outlined below.

Position	Name	Role
Presiding Member	Ms Margaret Wallace*	Chair
Business or Financial management	Ms Ella McDougall	Council Member
Clinical	Dr Neil Wigg	Council Member
Clinical	Prof Helen Marshall	Council Member
Business or Financial management	Mr Mark Buckerfield	Council Member
Health Consumer	Ms Melissa Cadzow	Council Member
Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander	Ms Nerida Saunders	Council Member

Vale Margaret Wallace 12.03.1948 – 15.01.2020

**Margaret Wallace dedicated many years of her life to the Women's and Children's Health Network; commencing in the role of Presiding Member of the Health Advisory Council in July 2011 and completing her tenure as Chair of the Governing Council in June 2019 with the commencement of the WCHN Governing Board.*

Margaret was a champion for consumer and community engagement who showed a deep passion for advancing the health and welfare of Aboriginal young people and their families.

Changes to the agency

During 2019-20 there were no changes to the agency's structure and objectives as a result of internal reviews or machinery of government changes.

Our Minister



Hon Stephen Wade MLC is the Minister for Health and Wellbeing in South Australia.

The Minister oversees health, wellbeing, mental health, ageing well, substance abuse and suicide prevention.

Our Executive team

Not applicable.

Legislation administered by the agency

Not applicable.

Other related agencies (within the Minister's area/s of responsibility)

Department for Health and Wellbeing

Wellbeing SA

Commission on Excellence and Innovation in Health

South Australian Ambulance Service

Barossa Hill Fleurieu Local Health Network

Central Adelaide Local Health Network

Eyre and Far North Local Health Network

Flinders and Upper North Local Health Network
Limestone Coast Local Health Network
Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network
Southern Adelaide Local Health Network
Northern Adelaide Local Health Network
Yorke and Northern Local Health Network

The agency's performance

Performance at a glance

Not applicable.

Agency contribution to whole of Government objectives

Not applicable.

Agency specific objectives and performance

Not applicable.

Corporate performance summary

Not applicable.

Employment opportunity programs

Not applicable.

Agency performance management and development systems

Not applicable.

Work health, safety and return to work programs

Not applicable.

Executive employment in the agency

Not applicable.

The [Office of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment](#) has a [workforce information](#) page that provides further information on the breakdown of executive gender, salary and tenure by agency.

Financial performance

Financial performance at a glance

The Governing Council has not had an allocated budget and has not incurred any expenditure in 2019-20. Member fees are paid by WCHN, and therefore included in their audited financial statements for 2019-20.

Consultants disclosure

Not applicable.

See also the [Consolidated Financial Report of the Department of Treasury and Finance](#) for total value of consultancy contracts across the South Australian Public Sector.

Contractors disclosure

Not applicable.

The details of South Australian Government-awarded contracts for goods, services, and works are displayed on the SA Tenders and Contracts website. [View the agency list of contracts](#). The website also provides details of [across government contracts](#).

Risk management

Risk and audit at a glance

Not applicable.

Fraud detected in the agency

Category/nature of fraud	Number of instances
Nil to report	0

NB: Fraud reported includes actual and reasonably suspected incidents of fraud.

Strategies implemented to control and prevent fraud

Health Advisory Councils have specific functions and powers as defined in the *Health Care Act 2008* and the Constitution (for incorporated Health Advisory Councils) or Rules (for non-incorporated Health Advisory Councils), including actions that cannot be undertaken without the approval of the Minister.

Health Advisory Councils are instrumentalities of the Crown and subject to relevant Department of Treasury and Finance Treasurer's Instructions.

The Constitutions and Rules identify the actions to be undertaken in the event of a conflict of interest. All declared conflicts of interest are reported to the Minister for Health and Wellbeing through WCHN.

Public interest disclosure

Number of occasions on which public interest information has been disclosed to a responsible officer of the agency under the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2018*:

Nil.

Note: Disclosure of public interest information was previously reported under the *Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993* and repealed by the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2018* on 01/07/2019.

Reporting required under any other act or regulation

Act or Regulation	Requirement
<i>Health Care Act 2008</i>	<p>Part 4 – Health Advisory Councils</p> <p>Division 2 – Functions and Powers</p> <p>Section 18 – Functions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) To act as an advocate to promote the interests of the community. (b) To provide advice about any relevant aspect of the provision of health services from the perspective of consumers of those services, any carers or volunteers or community more generally. (c) To provide advice about relevant health issues, goals, priorities, plans and other strategic initiatives. <p>Division 3 – Related Matters</p> <p>Section 22 – Annual Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) A Health Advisory Council must within 3 months after the end of each financial year, deliver to the Minister a report on the operations of the Health Advisory Council during that financial year.

Reporting required under the *Carers' Recognition Act 2005*

Not applicable.

Public complaints

Number of public complaints reported

A whole of SA Health response is provided in the Department for Health and Wellbeing 2019-20 Annual Report which can be accessed on the SA Health website www.sahealth.sa.gov.au.

Appendix: Audited financial statements 2019-20

The Governing Council has not had an allocated budget. Expenditure relating to the Governing Council fees have been paid by WCHN, and therefore, included in WCHN's audited financial statement for 2019-20.